RG104 Entry 235
Volume 045
Part 2

January 26, 1887– March 10, 1887
Letters Sent from Mint Headquarters

Fair copies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

Some of these letters duplicate those of Entry 1, and others are responses to letters in those boxes or in Entry 229 “Letters Received.”

William McIntire, Assistant Assayer, Charles H. Townsend, Register of Deposits, and Frank Hays, Assayer's Computation Clerk, all of your Mint, have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and were this day referred to the First Comptroller's Office for file.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

January 26th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 22nd instant relative to the errors in your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, to which your attention was directed in my letter of the 19th instant, you are respectfully informed, as follows:

(1.) By reference to my letter of the 19th instant, you will find it was gold deposit number 785 and not number 788, as stated in your letter, in which the first error occurred. The weight of this deposit was 4.25 ounces, fineness of the gold .895 – refining rate five cents an ounce = $1.21, alloy 2 cents = $1.23 instead of $1.19.

(2.) The charge on gold deposit number 698 was not calculated correctly; the weight of the deposit is 3.08 ounces, the fineness .896 – the charge for refining 5 cents an ounce = $1.15; alloy 2 cents = $1.17 instead of $1.14.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

January 26th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, has been received at this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

January 26th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 164, dated Jany. 21, 1887, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 15, dated Jany. 17th 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value was found to be $41,034.86, charges $106.83, and net value $40,928.03. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

January 26th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Phil-

adelphia be increased in the sum of One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.-), by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 26th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.-), and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

January 26th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colorado, to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa., of the sum of— $40,467.50, in Gold Coin and $460.53, in Silver Coin, making a total of $40,928.03, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the assayer in charge of the United States Mint

(Over.)

at Denver, Colorado, as shown by Memorandum No. 164, dated January 21, 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

January 26th 1887.

W. L. Nicholson, Esq.,
Topographer,
Post Office Department.

Sir:

Please furnish this Bureau with the shortest distance by railroad from New Orleans, La., to Ballinger, Texas, Citra, Fla., and Akron, Ala.

Please return enclosed memorandum.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

January 26th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion, Accounts with, Abstracts and Vouchers for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1886.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

January 26th 1887.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

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Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Schedule of Public Property in the various rooms occupied by the Bureau of the Mint, as required by Department Circular Letter of September 11th 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 27th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Sir:

You are perhaps, aware that, a revision is being made of the Instructions and Regulations of 1881.

Before going to press it seems desirable to have a statement of the medal branch of the work of your Mint, from the authorization to strike medals to final payment, including the basis for computation of loss."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 27th 1887.

Messers Fred. G. Frank & Bro.,
*99 Washington Street,
Chicago.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 25th instant is received. Silver "bricks or bars" in lots of less than ten thousand ounces may at any time be forwarded by express to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Penn., to be purchased, at the rate per ounce pure, authorized to be paid

(Over.)

by the Superintendent thereof upon delivery to him, for coinage into silver dollars under the provisions of the Act of February 28, 1878.

After the bullion has been assayed at the Mint, and the value ascertained, a draft payable by the U. S. Assistant Treasurer at New York is transmitted to the address of the person by whom shipped.

If desired the proceeds will be returned by express, at the risk and cost of the consignee.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 27th 1887.

Edward Curley, Esq.,
206, Chambers St.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 20th inst., in relation to the cause of your removal from the N. O. Mint, I have to inform you that removals in the Mint service are not made upon formal charges and specifications but at the discretion of the officials responsible for its discipline, and, except in special cases, reasons are not required by this Bureau to secure approval.

If injustice has been done you, you will doubtless be able to obtain the information you seek by direct application to the Supt. of the Mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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January 27th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York City.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Ordinary & Refinery Expense accounts for the Month ending December 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 27th 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Ordinary and Refinery Expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay-Office at New York for the Month ending December 31, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 27th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

C. D. No. 6742, for $3.00, being on account of Old Material inclosed in your communication of the 24th inst., has been received, properly indorsed, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury. No personal credit to be given you

(Over.)

in your accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 27th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

The Superintendent of the Mint at New Orleans suggests that paragraph 2 at the bottom of page 8 of the regulations of 1881 is not sufficiently explicit, in that the weigh clerk is not informed as to whether the alloy in base silver deposits does contain any of the substances mentioned in that paragraph, for which the deductions are to be made, and he suggests to insert after the word "alloy" in the first line, the words "as per assayer's report." The difficulty would be that this would require the assayer to make an analysis of every deposit, instead of ascertaining the quantity of gold and silver contained.

Will you please inform me, by return mail, if possible, whether there is any objection to this paragraph as it stands in the regulations, and if so, what change should be made in it, and also how this regulation is practically observed at your institution, that is to say, how does the weigh clerk get the information whether the deposit does contain any of the substances mentioned in that paragraph.

Please let me have the answer by re-

turn mail, as the proof of the new regulations is before me.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 27th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Your attention is called to letter of the 27th ultimo, from this Bureau, directing you to cause your Clerk, Mr. H. M. Davis, to furnish a bond in the penal sum of $2,000.

I will thank you to give this matter your very earliest attention.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 27th 1887.

W. A. Spear, Esq.,
Nashville, Tenn.

Sir:

By your postal card of the 20th instant you ask to be informed "to what extent coin must be damaged to be void".

As to silver and minor coins no limit for loss by natural abrasion or wear has been fixed by law. Therefore, so long as their identity can be distinguished the silver and minor coins of the United States pass current at their nominal values, if not mutilated or by any other means fraudulently diminished or otherwise impaired.

In the case of gold coins Section 3505

(Over.)

of the Revised Statutes provides that if they be not reduced in weight more than a ratable proportion of one-half of one per cent, to twenty years they shall be received by the Treasury under regulations prescribed by the Secretary to protect the Government "against fraudulent abrasion or other practices."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 27th 1887.

John J. Valentine, Esq.,
Vice-Prest., Wells, Fargo & Co.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your communication of the 20th instant is at hand. I will be pleased to know the result of your auditor's examination, as to the coinage of Mexico. I am, of course, anxious to arrive at the exact facts in regard to the coinage of that country. Will you have the kindness to send me a few copies of your "Precious Metals Product" for 1886.

Your compilations of the bullion production of the United States, are not only very valuable publications, but especially valuable to this Bureau, as they assist materially in checking reports and estimates as to the production of the various states and territories.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 28th 1887.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.,
Denver, Colo.

Telegram.

Your offer accepted for New Orleans at one hundred three and four tenth cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 28th 1887.

Zimmerman & Forshay,
New York.

Telegram.

Your offer declined.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to the following;

Clark, Dodge & Co.,
New York.

Handy & Harman,
New York.

J. & W. Seligman & Co.,
New York.

January 28th 1887.

Hon. W. S. Holman,
Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

The Postmaster General has decided that the transportation of bullion by registered mail is not a part of the proper and regular business of the Post Office Department. I therefore request that the interpolation of the words "by registered mail or otherwise" be stricken out of the wording of my estimates for the Mint Service and that the ap-

(over.)

propriation be left at the original amount, namely ten thousand dollars ($10,000.-).

You remember that my concession of $2,500.- was made conditional to the transportation of bullion by registered mail.

The Secretary has to-day sustained my view of the requirement of law for the transportation of bullion at the hands of the Government. The estimate, therefore, of $10,000.- will hardly be adequate.

It may indeed be necessary to incur a deficiency.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 28th 1887.

Henry Groemner, Esq.,
710, Market Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please make for the use of the San Francisco Mint, a complete set of U. S. standard coin weights and have the proper denomination stamped on each, their accuracy to be guaranteed by you.

When completed please forward them to the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco by express and bills in duplicate to him.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 28th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your letter of the 18th instant requesting a set of standard weights is received.

I have requested Mr. Henry Troemner of Philadelphia to make the weights and to forward them to you by express.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 28th 1887.

G. A. West, Esq.,
Willimantic, Conn.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 24th January on the subject of trade dollars which merchants will not accept from you at a higher valuation than seventy cents, and asking if this is all you can realize for the coins.

Until Congress shall provide for their redemption at their nominal value (for which a bill has passed the U. S. Senate and is pending in the House of Representatives) trade dollars can be purchased by the mints only as bullion, at a price fixed from time to time by this Bureau.

At the rate now authorized to be paid a trade dollar of 420 grains troy is worth eighty-one cents.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 28th 1887.

D. R. Autrey, Esq.,
Dismal P. O. Sampson Co.,
North Carolina.

(Over.)

Sir:

Your letter of the 21st instant, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau.

Mutilated silver coin of the United States, and uncurrent silver of the coinage of other nations, may be forwarded to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa., where it will be purchased as bullion, the superintendent being from time to time instructed, as to the price he shall pay for receipts of that character.

If the coins of which you desire to dispose were deposited at the Mint to-day the proceeds returned to you would be at the rate of $1.02½ per ounce of pure silver.

Shipments, either by express or registered mail, are made at the risk and expense of the person to whom the bullion belongs.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
Philadelphia

Telegram Confirmed

Expenditures from appropriation for steam-plant should be after approval of contracts by Secretary, when funds will be advanced. Please forward.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

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Telegram

Confirmed.

After February first no charge for transportation will be collected from depositors.

Will this increase deposits enough to give present force occupation?

Jas. P. Kimball
Director Mint.

January 29th 1887.

M. G. Skillman, Esq.
Fayette,
Howard Co., Missouri.

Sir:

The Treasury Department has received your application of the 23d January for a "price list of old coins", but has no publication of that description with which to furnish you.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Hon. J. W. Throckmorton,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I have been unable to comply with your request of the 27th January for a copy of the Report on the Production of the Precious Metals in the absence of any intimation as to the volume wanted.

If you wish the latest compilation on the statistics of the production of the precious metals in the United States (that for the calendar year 1885), I beg to suggest that four thousand copies of the report of the Director of the Mint on that subject were

(Over.)

ordered printed for the use of members of the House of Representatives.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Memorandum No. 192 of gold bullion deposited by the Assayer, U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana is returned herewith for your signature.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day, at the Department by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery, at your Mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

Boston & Colo. Smelting Co., 45,000 Ounces, at $1.0340

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

I transmit herewith copy of letter of the Postmaster General to the Secretary of the Treasury, and dated 20th January, "declaring "it to be wholly inexpedient from the stand-"point of the interests of this [the Post Office] "Department" to ship by registered mail silver bullion from Carson to San Francisco.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th instant, requesting to be informed as to whether you could use the standard silver dollar appropriation for the purpose of meeting the Incidental Expenses of your Mint for the present fiscal year, you are informed that while it is desirable to use the regular appropriation for this purpose, inasmuch as the same will not be sufficient, you can use the standard silver dollar appropriation to such extent as may be necessary to pay contingent expenses pertaining to the coinage of silver dollars, also for copper used in silver dollars.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

(Over).

Sir:

Your letter of the 28th instant, with enclosure was doubtless written under a misapprehension of what was requested by the Bureau on the 27th January, namely "a statement of the medal branch of the work of your mint, from the authorization to strike medals to final payment, including the basis for computation of loss;" or, in other words, a memorandum from the Coiner (possibly Engraver and Chief Clerk also) of the several requirements of the Mint in the matter of striking medals, and which should show the method of computing the item of "loss", if any, mode of reimbursement and schedule of charges, with the grounds for each.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

P. S. The above should be transmitted as early as practicable.

January 29th 1887.

The Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith, for transmittal to the House of Representatives in pursuance of House Resolution of January 13, a statement showing "how many dollars worth of silver bullion was purchased each month and how many dollars worth was coined in each month of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886:" also how many dollars

worth of silver bullion was purchased and how many coined in each of the months of July, August, September, October, November and December of 1886."

It will be seen therefrom that the law requiring the purchase and coinage of not less than two million dollars worth of bullion per month has been complied with for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, as well as for the remaining six months of the calendar year 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 29th 1887.

M. E. Bell, Esq.,
Supervising Architect.

My dear Sir:

As the Secretary has made a ruling which must act more or less in favor of the Mint at Carson as an assay-office, it does not now seem to me warrantable, in view of the short remaining term of Congress, to make recommendations to Congress looking to the closing of operations there and the consequent proposal to use the Mint building as a Court and post-office building.

It does not seem to me, therefore, that it would be proper for me at this time to take any further steps in the matter. Perhaps you will wish to speak to the Secretary, however, before regarding the matter settled, so far as relates to my previous suggestion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director.

January 31st 1887.

Telegram. Superintendent Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Confirmed. One dollar per ounce standard.
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 31st 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Telegram. Until further notice, pay for silver contained in gold deposits at the

Confirmed. rate of ninety-two cents per ounce standard.
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar telegrams sent to the following;

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte N. C.

Superintendent Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Superintendent Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York.

Sir:

Until further notice, you will pay

for silver contained in gold deposits at the rate of ninety-two cents per ounce standard.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter sent to the following:

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The minimum number of standard silver dollars to be coined by your Mint in February, is hereby fixed at one-million eight hundred thousand, (1,800,000.).

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The number of standard silver dollars to be coined by your Mint in February, is hereby fixed at one million (1,000,000.)

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

(Over).

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Ordinary and Refinery Expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson for the month ending November, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Ordinary and Refinery Expense accounts for the month ending November, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I return herewith for correction your Standard Silver Dollar account for the month of December, together with the Abstract of disbursements and pay-roll of the coiner's department. It will be observed that the extra time of Simon Lee, roller has been erroneously calculated, causing an overpayment to him of 12¢.

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Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 31st 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Herewith returned please find official bond and affidavits of surety of H. M. Dana.

You will observe that the bond is not dated as required by note six, foot margin of the blank. I will thank you to cause the proper date to be entered.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your annual statements of Deposits and Purchases and Bars Manufactured for the calendar year ended December 31, 1886, are returned herewith for correction as they do not agree with the statements rendered monthly. On form No. 60, the amount of U. S. Coins deposited is 1,000 ounces more and the amount of jewelers bars is 1,000 less than reported monthly.

The amounts of fine bars and unparted bars are also incorrectly stated.

On form No. 61½, the amounts of gold and silver fine bars are incorrect and the amount of sterling bars made is not enter-

(Over).

ed on the report.

Please make the necessary corrections and return the statements promptly.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please forward to the Mint at San Francisco as soon as practicable, three pairs of dime dies.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Mason:

It has been suggested that the words "not required to be parted or refined", at the head of "bar charges" on page 7, of the regulations be stricken out. The effect of this, if done, would be to require a bar charge on deposits of fine bars when the deposit had been refined.

Please inform me by return mail, what you think of the propriety of this change.

I have determined to alter the deductions on base silver deposits as sug-

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gested in your letter of the 28th instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant I would state that the correct distance to the points named in your communication is as follows, viz:

New Orleans to	Ballinger, Texas,	716 miles
"	Citra, Fla.,	634 "
"	Akron, Ala.,	267 "

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st 1887.

Mr. C. P. Benedict,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The offer made by you in behalf of the American Express Company to transport gold bullion from the U. S. Assay-Office at Helena, Mon. to the Mint of the U. S. at Philadelphia, at the rate of $2.92 per $1,000.00, value is accepted and the gold bullion deposited at the Helena Assay Office will be transported at this rate until further notice.

Instructions will be given the Assayer in charge of the assay-office to ship all gold bullion deposited on and after

(over).

the 1st. proximo by the American Express Company and I will thank you to notify the officers of that company to this effect.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

January 31st. 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have had occasion previously to take exception to your practice of buying wood outside of your contract, and therefore shall suspend your Ordinary Expense Account for December pending explanation of voucher No. 150, bill of P. F. Nouvet, the principal item being 64 cords of 3-foot pine wood at $3.65 per cord, when the contract is for 4-foot pine wood at $3.40 per cord.

You will please understand in future that contracts are made to be observed and not to be evaded.

Your contract should be made to cover all your wants in wood, so as to leave none not provided for.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st. 1887.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
New York.

Telegram

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and three cents per

Confirmed

ounce fine for New Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

William G. Lidrichsen,
#43, Exchange Place,
New York.

Telegram Confirmed

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and three cents per ounce fine.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to the following:

J. & W. Seligman & Co.,
New York.

Handy & Harman,
New York.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.,
New York.

Zimmerman & Forshay,
New York.

February 1st 1887.

H. G. Torrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
New York City.

Sir:

The Annual Assay Commission, of which you are by law an ex-officio member - (Section 3547 of the Revised Statutes), will meet at the Mint at Philadelphia on the ninth instant, at ten o'clock A. M., to test and examine the fineness and weight of the coins reserved at the several coinage Mints of the United States during the calendar year

(over).

1886. Your necessary traveling and other personal expenses while attending the Commission will be reimbursed by the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters sent to the following:

Hon. William Butler,
Judge U. S. District Court,
Philadelphia.

Hon. William L. Trenholm,
Comptroller of the Currency,
Treasury Department.

February 1st 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at New Orleans be increased in the sum of $1,000,000.—, by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Telegram.

One million dollars placed to your

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credit with assistant Treasurer at New York
Confirmed. to-day.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

In view of the communication of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, with enclosure, dated 27th ultimo, copies of which are enclosed, and inviting your perusal of letters addressed by this Bureau to your predecessor in office December 20, 1884, and January 3, 1885; I have to request that you inform me whether the reverse coinage dies of the Mint at New Orleans for 1885 and 1886 cannot now be returned to the Mint at Philadelphia, as contemplated in the correspondence referred to. They should be returned if possible.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Referring to your letter in regard to deductions on base silver bullion, I enclose herewith a copy of a communication of the Refiner and Refiner of the New York Assay-Office, which may be of interest to you, if not a guide, in making such de-

(over).

ductions at your Mint, and I commend it to your careful attention.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of ($1,000,000.—), and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of $25.000.—, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Boise City National Bank, Boise City, Idaho.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

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Sir:

In future, as soon as the delivery on account of any lot of silver purchased by the department for your Mint is completed, you will please forward a statement showing the amount delivered and its cost.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Wm. G. Hidrichsen, Esq.,
#43, Exchange Place,
New York.

Sir:

Referring to your letter in which you ask in case Government should accept silver offered by you that returns be made to the Bank of America, at New York, for the credit of the "Blue-Bird" Mining Company, located at Butte, Mon., I would state that this is impracticable but that drafts in payment of the amount will be remitted you by the Supt. of the Mint at Philadelphia, on the Assistant Treasurer at New York. It will be necessary that you sign and return to him a receipt acknowledging the account of the drafts transmitted.

I send you by to-day's mail a supply of invoices to be used when shipping silver to the Mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day, at the Department by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Wm. G. Ridrichsen,	14,500	Ounces, at	$1.03
J. & W. Seligman & Co.,	42,000	" "	1.03
Handy & Harman,	75,000	" "	1.03

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter with the following exceptions, sent to;

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Clark, Dodge & Co., 275,000 Ounces, at $1.03

February 1st 1887.

Messers James W. Queen & Co.,
*924, Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

You will please forward one of the Oertling assay balances and set of weights imported by you to this Bureau, and the other to the Mint at New Orleans, transmitting a separate account for each.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Ordinary and Refinery Expense accounts for the Month ending December 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Ordinary and Refinery Expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson for the Month ending December, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Report of Charges collected Account, Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending December 31st 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Messers James W. Queen & Co.,
924, Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

I have received your letter of the 31st ultimo, stating that you had received the invoice for two (2) Oertling balances and accompanying weights, imported by you for the use of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans and have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to direct their admission free of duty.

I will thank you to forward to this Bureau immediately, your bill in duplicate for these balances as requested in my letter of the 22nd ultimo.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Sir:

No reply from the Mint at Philadelphia has yet been received at this Bureau to so much of my letter of the 19th January as requested the transmission of "a summary statement of coins reserved by the Mint at Philadelphia for annual assay during calendar year 1886, similar to that on page 6 of the printed "Proceedings" of the last Assay Commission".

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Earnings and Expenditures Account, Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending December 31, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Account, Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending December 31st 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause the admission, free of duty, of the following Oertling assay balances and weights imported for the use of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, by Messers James W. Queen & Co., of Philadelphia, in the steamship "British Prince" from Liverpool:

1. No. 12 – Balance
1 " 12a "

(Over).

2, Sets of Weights 1000 — 1 Grm.
2, " " " 1000 = 1/2 "
4, each, Silver Ingot Weights, 1115 Mmg.
4, each, Silver proof Weights, 1004 "
1/2 doz, pairs Steel Forceps
Zinc lined case.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 192, dated Jan'y 25, 1887, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipments No. 1, 2, 3 and 4, dated Jan'y 15, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value was found to be $43,170.75; charges — $117.59, and net value $43,053.16. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 1st 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to Memorandum No. 192 showing the value of four shipments of gold bullion received from the Assay

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Office at Helena, you are requested, in future, to forward to this Bureau a memorandum showing the value of each shipment.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Mr. Henry Groemner,
#710, Market St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 29th is received. The set of standard weights ordered for the U. S. Mint at San Francisco was intended to include those for Gold and Silver coins only.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

C. P. Benedict, Esq.,
Agent Adams Express Co.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I return herewith the account of the Adams Express Company amounting to $1347.05, for the transportation of minor coins received during the month of December last with the information that the same should be paid by the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia from the minor coinage profit fund.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise City, Idaho, be increased in the sum of $25,000.00, by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in Charge of said institution with the Boise City National Bank, Boise City, Idaho.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 1st 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana, to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of $41,842.00, in Gold Coin and $1,211.16, in Silver Coin, making a total of $43,053.16, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, Mont., as shown by Memorandum No. 192, dated Jany. 25th, 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 2nd 1887.

Hon. W. L. Scott,
House of Representatives.

Telegram.

At what hour shall I meet you to day? I should prefer the afternoon, if it makes no difference to you.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Your communication of the 29th ult., transmitting statements of bullion shipped to the Mint at Philadelphia during the quarter ending December 31st 1886, as well as the express receipts for the shipments, have been received at this Bureau, and the enclosures have been placed with your bullion accounts for the quarter ending December 31st 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia during the month of January and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay have been received, viz:

13 S. S. Dollars,	—	$13.00
20 Dimes,	—	2.00
Total value	—	$15.00

(Over).

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon special assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the month of December 1886, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 2nd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

Herewith returned please find your Ordinary Expense Account, Abstract of disbursements and voucher #35, bill of John Lemp for ice pertaining to the month of December, 1886.

This bill should be itemized, and if any portion of the ice consumed was purchased prior to July 1st 1886, it must be deducted from the amount of the bill as rendered.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

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February 2nd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined your Ordinary Expense account for the Month of December, 1886 and referred it to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, with my approval, except voucher No. 9, for telegrams which shows charge on telegram from this Bureau, under date of July 27, 86, 11¢ in excess of the proper amount.

This excess will be disallowed and you will be required to take it up in your next account.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 2nd 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Ordinary Expense account of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C., for the Month ending December 31, 1886, rendered to me, for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Note certificate on abstract of disbursements.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

E. B. Youmans, Esq.,
Chief Clerk.

(Over.)

Sir:

In reply to your circular letter of the 26th ultimo, you are informed that this Bureau will not require any file-holders during the current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 24th ult. relative to the charge imposed for "melting, assaying and stamping" on gold deposit number 856, the value of the gold in that deposit, as entered on your abstract sheets, is $2,384.04, not $2,348.04, as stated in your letters. There seems to have been an erasure on the abstract sheets where the value of the gold in this deposit is entered. The charge on it, however, should have been $2.99 and you will please make the entries called for in my letter of the 19th ultimo.

The enclosures with your letter have been placed with your bullion accounts.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

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Your communication of the 24th ult., enclosing express receipts for the transportation of bullion to the Mint at Philadelphia for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, has been received, and the vouchers have been placed with your bullion accounts.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your communication of the 20th ult., enclosing a statement of bars manufactured at your Mint during the calendar year 1886 for persons engaged in the industrial arts, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

Chief of the Bureau of Statistics,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

As it is my purpose to submit to the present Congress, which expires by limitation of law on the 4th of March, a report on the Production of the Precious Metals in the United States for the calendar year 1886, I will thank you to furnish this Bureau, at as early a date as may be convenient, with an annual statement for the calendar year 1886 of the imports and exports of

(Over).

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gold and silver coin and bullion.

The monthly statements from you covering the calendar year have been received and are being consolidated, but it has not been the practice of this Bureau to accept them as final until your annual statement has been received and they have been checked with it.

Your kindness in furnishing the annual statement as promptly as may be will be appreciated.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 2nd 1887.

The Editor,
Commercial & Financial Chronicle,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have read with interest the article in the number of the "Chronicle" bearing date of January 22nd 1887, entitled "Gold and Silver Production since 1851."

Referring to the comments on Mr. Valentine's estimates which I took occasion to compliment in my report on the Production of the Precious Metals for 1885, there can be but little doubt that, as the great bulk of the carrying trade of the precious metals has long since passed from the hands of Wells, Fargo & Co., the Bureau of the Mint is in a better position to ascertain, with accuracy, the production of the mines of the United States than the General Manager of Wells, Fargo &

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Co's. express. With this statement Mr. Valentine fully agrees. I quote from two letters received from him, acknowledging the receipt of copies of the reports of this Bureau.

In one, under date of December 15th 1886 he says: "Without going into details, I must say I think the Government reports now more nearly approximate the actual output than ours do by reason of the necessarily hurried conclusion of our statements at the close of the year. When we begun these statements Wells, Fargo & Co., furnished the only information obtainable.

Under date of January 20th 1887 he says: "As stated in a previous letter, I deem your fiscal reports for the United States of America more nearly correct than ours, you having more time and better opportunities to sift local reports than we now enjoy." My main purpose, however, in addressing you was to correct an error which occurred in my annual report for the fiscal year 1886, through no fault of the Bureau of the Mint, in regard to the production of Australasia. The production reported by the Deputy Master of the Melbourne Mint, published on page 182 of my fiscal report, was in "ounces," and as he did not state what kind of ounces were intended, these were presumed to be fine ounces.

In order, however, to be certain on this point, I addressed him a communication on the subject. His reply, under date of the 24th November 1886, only reached this Bureau on the 12th of last month: "The ounces given in my return are gross ounces, prob-

(Over).

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ably the weight of the alluvial or retorted gold obtained by the miners."

He estimates that the gold received at the Mint runs about 95 per cent of pure gold, and as there is a loss of from 2½ to 3 per cent in melting it will be necessary to make a deduction from the reported production of Australia of about 8 per cent, which will be done in my next report on the Production of the Precious Metals which is in course of preparation.

This will reduce the production of Australasia over $2,000,000. in gold annually from the figures given in my fiscal report for the years 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885.

I take pleasure in sending you by mail to-day a library copy of my report on the Production of Gold and Silver in the United States for the calendar year 1885, and of my annual report for the fiscal year 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Mr. Kimball would be glad to receive two copies of your paper of the 22nd ult.

February 2nd 1887.

W. de L. Benedict, Esq.,
#32, Liberty St.,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Your communication of the 24th ult., addressed to the Director of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been referred to this Bureau for reply.

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You are respectfully informed that there is no charge for the annual reports of the Director of the Mint, and I forward you by mail to-day copies of such issues as are in the possession of this Bureau. The first issue of the reports of this Bureau on the Production of Gold and Silver in the United States was for the calendar year 1880. I send you copies for the years 1880, 1881, 1883, 1884 and 1885.

The edition for 1882 is exhausted.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $5,000.00, to meet the expenses of the refinery in connection with your institution during the present month, payable from the appropriation for "Parting and refining bullion."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letter with the following exception, sent to:
Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York.
$8,000.00.

February 3rd 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

(Over).

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Ordinary Expense account of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay-Office at Helena, Mon., for the month ending December 31, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the same address with the following exceptions;

——— of the Assayer in charge, ——— at St. Louis, Mo., and Assayer, U. S. Mint, at Denver, Colo.

——— bullion accounts of the Assayer, ——— U. S. Assay-Office at Charlotte, N. C., for the quarter ending Dec., 31st, 1886., &c.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Ordinary Expense account for the month ending December 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters sent to the following;
Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon. and

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Bullion, accounts for the quarter ending December 31st 1886, &c.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Ordinary Expense Account with abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $5,500.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$3,000.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	1,700.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	800.—

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters with the following exceptions, sent to:

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

(Over.)

for the sum of $1,900.00,
viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$650.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	850.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	400.—

and Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.
for the sum of $16,000.00
viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$3,000.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	13,000.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

C. D. No. 663, for $495.23, being on account of Parting and refining charges inclosed in your communication of the 25th ult., has been received, properly indorsed, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury, to the credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters with the following exceptions, to the same address;

C. D. No. 665, for $3.28, being on account of Melting charges, &c.

C. D. No. 664, for $21.86, being on account of Melting and refining charges, &c.,

C. D. No. 666, for $3.00, being on account of Alloy charges, and

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the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a Miscellaneous receipt.

C. D. No. 671, for $3.20, being on account of Transportation charges, ——— to be covered into the Treasury, as a miscellaneous receipt.

and to the following; Supt. Mint at St. Louis:

C. D. No. 648, for $193.24, being on account of Sweeps, inclosed in your communication of the 29th ult., ———

personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

C. D. No. 649, for $43.93, being on account of Charges for melting, assaying & stamping, &c. ———

C. D. No. 650, for $17.51, being on account of Deposit Room, grains, &c. ———

C. D. No. 653, for $6.00, being on account of, assays of bullion, ———

No personal credit to be given you in your accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

and to the Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

C. D. No. 6743, for $500.00, being on account of Profits on Medals, ———

——— personal credit to be given you in your Medal Fund and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

February 3rd 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
Carson Nev.

legram. Do not purchase any silver in antici-

(Over.)

for the sum of $1,900.00,

viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$650.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	850.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	400.—

and Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

for the sum of $16,000.00

viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$3,000.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	13,000.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

C. D. No. 663, for $495.23, being on account of Parting and refining charges inclosed in your communication of the 25th ult., has been received, properly indorsed, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury, to the credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters with the following exceptions, to the same address;

C. D. No. 665, for $3.98, being on account of Melting charges, &c.

C. D. No. 664, for $21.86, being on account of Melting and refining charges, &c.,

C. D. No. 666, for $3.00, being on account of Alloy charges, and

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the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

C. D. No. 671, for $3.20, being on account of Transportation charges, ——— to be covered into the Treasury, as a miscellaneous receipt.

And to the following; Supt. Mint at St. Louis:

C. D. No. 648, for $193.24, being on account of Sweeps, inclosed in your communication of the 29th ult., ———

personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

C. D. No. 649, for $43.93, being on account of Charges for melting assaying & stamping, &c.

C. D. No. 650, for $17.51, being on account of Deposit Room grains, &c.

C. D. No. 653, for $6.00, being on account of assays of bullion, ———

No personal credit to be given you in your accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

And to the Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

C. D. No. 6743, for $500.00, being on account of Profits on Medals, ———

——— personal credit to be given you in your Medal Fund and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

February 3rd 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
Carson Nev.

Do not purchase any silver in antici-

(over)

Telegram.

Confirmed

pation of requirement of refinery; confine your operations to deposits. Forward statement of silver purchases in January form one ninety three, without delay.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 3rd 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram

Forward form one ninety-three, for January without delay.

Confirmed

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City.

Sir:

It is very desirable that the Bureau of the Mint should be informed on the subject of the importation and exportation of gold through Canadian banks. As many of these banks have agencies in New York, will you not undertake to confer with them on this subject?

Bank of Montreal

I may mention the Bank of British North America, Merchants' Bank of Canada and Canadian Bank of Commerce.

I would like to ascertain the character of the gold shipped, both from New York and Quebec, on Canadian account and, when shipped from New York, under what circumstances as to custom house business, particularly as to whether manifested or not along with ordinary American

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exports and imports.

Mr. Townsend, the manager of the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Bank in New York, is said to be especially well-informed as to the consumption of trade dollars in China.

In the course of your inquiries we should be pleased to have any statistical information from him on the subject of the exportation to China.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 28th ult., relative to the charge imposed on gold deposits numbers 698 and 785, there is nothing on the Assayer's reports to show that there was not one hundred parts of base metal in these deposits, the fineness being in the one case .895 and in the other .896

In such cases, in order to enable the Department to examine your accounts correctly, you should state on the Assayer's report the quantity of silver and mark "not allowed." You will readily perceive that it was impossible to know that the base of these deposits contained a large quantity of silver from the papers forwarded with your accounts, and this has occasioned the correspondence on the subject.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:

Referring to your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, your attention is directed to the following discrepancies: Gold deposit 1152 made November 11th by the Merchant's National Bank, the silver contained is 19.30 standard ounces, instead of 19.42, the amount paid for. Deposit 1250, made December 14th by the Empire Mining Co., the silver contained was 146.40 standard ounces instead of 146.20, the amount paid for.

The following errors appear in the footing of your abstract sheets: October sheet No. 2, the footing of the silver (standard weight) is entered 2,704.46; the figures call for 2,704.56.

November deposit sheet No. 1, silver (standard weight) is entered as 1,337.14; the correct addition of the figures entered on the abstract sheet is 1,347.10.

December deposit sheet No. 1, the silver (standard weight) is footed 1,535.13; it should have been 1,535.03.

Please let me hear from you in regard to these errors at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

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Sir:

I return herewith for correction, as indicated in pencil, your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886. Please return the enclosed accounts with the corrected ones in order to avoid the necessity of re-verifying the entries.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Referring to your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, your attention is respectfully directed to the fact that the silver contained in gold deposits number 1097 made by the Empire Mining Co. November 4th, was paid for at the rate of 89 cents per standard ounce, while the rate of silver partings on that day was 86 cents.

The correct value of the silver contained in that deposit was $196.33; the amount paid for it was $203.18. The silver contained in all of the deposits under date of November 10th was paid for at the rate of 90 cents a standard ounce whereas the rate authorized was 89 cents.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson City, Nev.

Sir:

(over).

Please forward your bullion and coin accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886 without further delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31st 1886 has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find returned statement of "assay coins for 1886," which you will observe is not "similar" to the one on page 6 of the printed "Proceedings" of the Assay Commission of 1885, but the identical statement itself, readily seen to have been a summary of coins reserved during the calendar year 1885, a period prior to that mentioned in my two letters of January 19, and February 1. It may be well to repeat that a statement is desired (by pieces and value) of the gold and silver coins to be produced at the meeting of the Assay Commission next week as of the coinage executed by the Mint at Philadelphia during

the calendar year 1886.

As but few days remain, this matter should have the earliest attention.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Hon. H. M. Teller,
U. S. Senate.

Sir:

It will be obvious to you, by looking over the correspondence in Senate Executive Document No. 28, that, unless the expenditure of the appropriation for the repair of the U. S. Mint Building at Denver be made by the Director of the Mint, the appropriation is likely not to meet the views of the Supervising Architect. The recommendation for the appropriation was by me, as well as the proposal of the expedient for which this appropriation is asked.

If it is practicable, therefore, to insert in the appropriation already admitted, "under the supervision of the Director of the Mint" it will become available for the purpose intended; otherwise it is very doubtful whether it will become so.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Messers James W. Queen & Co.,
*924, Chestnut St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

(Over).

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Collector of the port, at Philadelphia to admit, free of duty, the Oertling Assay Balance and weights imported by you for the use of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Geo. M. Ramsey, Esq.,
Clokey, Penn.

Sir:

Referring to your letter stating that a change in composition of U. S. Coins is absolutely requisite, I have to reply that any steps toward a change should be taken by Congress.

The composition of coins is prescribed by law, and the Director of the Mint has nothing to do but follow it.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

The Hon. Secretary
of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your reference of the enclosed letter of the Chairman of the Committee on Claims, House of Representatives, I have the honor to state that the claim of Mr. James C. Booth, Melter and Refiner of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, for $1.936.62, is based on the payment by him of this

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amount, corresponding to the value of 1,980.12 standard ounces of silver stolen in the winter of 1884-85 while technically in his custody from the fact of his having receipted for the same. His responsibility, as a matter of fact, was thus only technical, owing to the circumstance that no provision was made by the Superintendent for the safe custody of silver bullion for want of vault room.

It was therefore stored in the court of the Mint, and thus exposed to depredation, a circumstance over which the Melter and Refiner had no control. When called upon by me to make good the deficiency charged to him this was done without demur, and the account closed on the books of the Mint.

All the circumstances in the case, with their technical bearing, were related by me in my report for the fiscal year 1885, pages 14 and 20, and again referred to in my report for the fiscal year 1886, pages 13 and 23. A statement in detail was submitted on April 27, 1886, to the honorable Chairman of the Committee on Claims, House of Representatives. Both in my two reports and in my letter to the chairman I have urged the favorable consideration of Mr. Booth's claim, as an act of simple justice to this efficient and venerable officer who has grown old in the position which he has held for nearly forty years.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 3rd 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay-Office at St. Louis to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of - $10,262.50, in Gold Coin, and $142.76, in Silver Coin, making a total of $10,405.26, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis, as shown by Memorandum No. 225, dated January 31, 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director.

February 3rd 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 225, dated Jany. 31, 1887, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 44, dated Jan'y 28, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $10,436.62, charges $31.36, and net value $10,405.26. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

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February 4th 1887.

Telegram.

J. & W. Seligman & Co.,
New York.

Sir:

Confirmed.

Your offer received too late.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Telegram.

Clark, Dodge & Co.,
New York.

Your offer declined. Will accept fifty-thousand ounces for New Orleans at one hundred and three cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Telegram.

Zimmerman & Forshay,
New York.

Your offer declined. Will accept fifty-thousand ounces at one hundred and three cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram sent to the following:

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.,
New York.

February 4th 1887.

Telegram.

Handy & Harman,
New York.

Your offer declined. Will accept seventy-five thousand ounces at one hundred and three cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.,
Denver, Colo.

Telegram

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and three cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

Confirmed

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Telegram.

Leave of absence and Gillespie, acting, approved.

Confirmed

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Telegram.

Have renewed contract for shipping gold bullion deposited at your office by express at government expense, act accordingly.

Confirmed

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar telegrams sent to the following;

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Please forward by return mail a state-

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ment of assets and liabilities of your institution of the date of December 31st 1886, similar to the one published on pages 102 and 103 of my report for the fiscal year 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters sent to the following:

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York, N. Y.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson City, Nev.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Ordinary Expense Account with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending January 1, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, the Assayer's report upon special assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of December, 1886, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letter sent to;
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your annual statements of Bars Manufactured and Deposits and Purchases, returned for correction I would state that the statements referred to must reach this Bureau on Monday next without further delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:

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The official bond of Robert R. Dunn, Clerk in your office has been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and was this day referred to the Office of the First Comptroller for file.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 26th ult., in the case of the deposit in which the error of one dollar occurred, you paid the depositor one dollar too much, consequently you reduced the balance in your coin account one dollar. You were instructed to charge your coin account with this sum, which restored the amount of money to that account which you would have had if this error had not occurred.

You then deposited the amount as a profit, and the certificate has been covered into the Treasury, and a warrant issued, giving you credit in the settlement of your accounts. It is necessary, therefore, that you should reduce the amount of your coin on hand by the amount of this certificate of deposit, by taking credit in your coin account for this sum deposited in the Treasury as a profit.

It is not necessary nor advisable to delay the settlement of your accounts by any further controversy over this amount.

It was deposited without authority and

(over).

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has been covered into the Treasury and there is no way of having the amount restored to your accounts, nor can I say that it is necessary that it should be.

Please return your September accounts, corrected as indicated in my letter of the 20th ult., without further delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 25th ult., in regard to the certificates of deposit covering your charges for the quarter ended December 31st 1886, I thought best to inquire, before covering these certificates into the Treasury, whether they had been deposited (as in former years) at your Mint, and not under the changed condition of the business of your Mint. Of course you could not use any of the charges until they had been deposited in the Treasury and drawn out regularly from the appropriation for parting and refining bullion.

If the bullion is transported to another mint for coinage the cost of transportation would properly be payable from the charges collected for the purpose from depositors. However, the certificates have all been covered into the Treasury.

You will note that certificates numbers 663, 664 and 665 have been covered to the

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did you not deposit them in one tificate as arting and re-ining char-es, as has een the prac-ice at your

credit of the appropriation for parting and refining bullion. Under the regulations all of the charges, except the alloy charge (and of course the transportation charge would be excepted) go to the credit of this appropriation.

As no bullion accounts have been received from you since your Mint was reopened I am unable to ascertain what these amounts represent. If they were all charges for melting, toughening and refining why

Mint & Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball Director of the Mint.

February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to inform this Bureau of the amount due the Adams Express Company for the transportation of minor coins reissued.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 4th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Statements of gold bullion shipment No. 2, to Philadelphia is returned herewith for your signature.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 4th 1887.

Hon. J. Floyd King,
House Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Complying with request contained in

your letter of recent date I enclose herewith a comparative statement showing the expenses of the U. S. Mint at New-Orleans, on account of salaries and wages of workmen during the months of January 1885, and 1887. The same statement also shows the number of persons employed during the periods. It may not be out of place to state that the work of the Mint is much heavier at present than it was two years ago.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Comparative statement showing the expenditures of the New Orleans Mint on account of salaries and wages of workmen and adjusters, during the months of January 1885 and 1887, together with statement for same periods giving number of persons employed.

Object of Expenditure	1885.	1887.
Salaries of Officers and Clerks,	$2,751.20	$2,751.20
Wages, General Department,	2,754.19	2,862.00
" Melter & Refiner's "	1,660.82	1,714.50
" Coiner's "	4,212.93	4,866.75
" Assayer's "	204.09	283.50
Total	11,583.23	12,477.95
Number of Salaried Officers & Clerks	10	10
" " Employes General Dept.	35	36
" " " Melter & Ref. "	19	21
" " " Coiner's "	65	81
" " " Assayer's "	2	3
Total	131	151

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February 4th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day at the Department by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Jas. B. Colgate & Co., 50,000 Ounces, at $1.03
Zimmerman & Forshay 50,000 " " 1.03

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter sent to the following, except name of firm and amount;

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

of Clark, Dodge & Co., 50,000 Ounces, at $1.03
Boston & Colorado
Smelting Co., 40,000 Ounces, at $1.03

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith find corrected statement of coins reserved by the Mint at Philadelphia during the calendar year 1886, enclosed with your letter of the 4th instant.

Please verify and return by first mail.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Ordinary Expense account of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco for the month ending December 31, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Very respectfully,
H. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your Ordinary Expense account for the month ending December 31, 1886 with my approval.

Very respectfully,
H. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Ordinary, Refinery & Standard Dollar Coinage & Storage Expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Month ending January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
H. E. Preston, Acting Director.

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February 6th 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $2,200.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$900
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	1300.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $11,200.—, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	6,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	2,500.

Very respectfully,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

(Over).

Sir:

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $4000- from the appropriation for the coinage of Standard Silver Dollars, to meet in part, the expenses of your Mint on account of that coinage during the current month.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to forward, as early as practicable, a statement showing the amount of minor coin on hand December 31, 1886, also amount and cost of minor coinage metal on hand, and the amount of minor coinage profits, same date.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day, at the Department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New

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York:
Handy & Harman, 75,000 Ounces, at $1.03

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter enclosing statement of silver purchased at your Mint from Jan 16, to Jan. 31, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 5th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 4th instant transmitting Statement of Gold bars exchanged for Gold coin in the month of January 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 5th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:

In your daily statement of the 27th instant, you give the balance to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer at New-

(Over)

York as $71,069.33, while on your statement of the 28th the balance with the Assistant Treasurer is given as $21069.33.

As the statement of the latter date shows no transaction on that day, I will thank you for an explanation of the difference.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 7th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Telegram Confirmed

State by wire cost of silver bullion on hand at close of business thirty-first ultimo.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar telegram sent to;
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

February 7th 1887.

John G. Ames, Esq.,
Superintendent of Documents,
Department of the Interior.

Sir:

As requested in your favor of the 5th instant I send you herewith half a dozen copies of the circular of the value of Foreign Coins.

I have sent by mail to day to Mr. C. W. Robinson, as requested in your letter, copies of the annual report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885 and 1886, which

are the only annual reports at the disposal of this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
E. O. Leech,
For the Director.

February 7th 1887.

R. H. Spencer, Esq.,
Sec'y. Georgene Mining Co.,
#39 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 4th inst., I send you by mail to day a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals in the United States for the calendar year 1884. The first report by the Director on the Production of the Precious Metals was for the year 1880, and we have no reports prior to that period of the mineral resources of the United States.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 7th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of 213.90, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

(Over).

Salaries, 1887, $213.90.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 7th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $40.000—, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$3,000.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	25,000.—
Contingent Expenses,	1887,	12,000.—

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 7th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $10,000.—, to meet the expenses of the refinery in connection with your institution during the present month, payable from the appropriation for "Parting and refining bullion".

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 8th 1887.

To the

Board of Assay Commissioners of 1887.

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to inform you that during the calendar year 1886 no changes were made in any of the executive offices of the United States Mints at Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans.

No coinage was executed at the Mint at Carson City, Nevada, and the office of coiner at that mint is still vacant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Mint, Denver, Colo.

Telegram. Confirmed.

If bullion accounts for December not returned forward to day.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director, Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Assayer, Helena, Montana.

Telegram. Confirmed

Telegraph ounces and value gold and silver separately on hand December 31st including bullion forwarded but not reached New York.

Forward detailed statement assets and liabilities that date by mail.

See page one hundred two Annual Report.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

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February 8th 1887.

Assayer,
Boise City, Idaho.

Telegram. Forward to day Statement showing ounces and value of Gold and Silver bullion which had not reached Mint charged to you December thirty-first.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Handy and Harman,
New York.

Telegram Your offer of one hundred and fifty thousand ounces at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine accepted.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 8th 1887.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.,
New York.

Telegram Your offer declined.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston.
Acting Director.

Similar telegrams sent to the following;

J. & W. Seligman & Co.,
New York.

Zimmerman & Forshay
New York.

Clark, Dodge & Co.,
New York.

Wm. J. Heidrichsen,
New York.

Fourth National Bank,
New York.

February 8th 1887.

Emil Sonnek, Esq.,
Radom, Ills.

Sir:

Your letter of the 4th inst., addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, has been referred to the Superintendent U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, for report as to value of the coins.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 8th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your telegram of this date calling attention to an erroneous requisition for funds for the use of your Mint, I would state that the request upon the Secretary of the Treasury was correctly made but in notifying you of the action of this Bureau, the wrong blank was inadvertently used.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 8th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I return herewith the statement of assets and liabilities enclosed in your communication of the 4th ult. It is not made up according to the form indicated in the report of the Director. It is not the "value

(over).

of the bullion in transit to the Mint at Philadelphia" which is to be stated as a separate item, but the value of the bullion which had reached the Mint at Philadelphia, and consequently would be included in the balance of bullion reported by the Mint. The gold and silver bullion on your statement as in your hands should include the amount shipped and which was in transit, that is, which had not reached the Mint at Philadelphia and which was not included in its balance.

The purpose is to prevent the duplication of bullion in stating the balance at all of the institutions at a given date.

The item "difference in value and charges on bullion at Philadelphia" should be eliminated, and either included in the value of the bullion at Philadelphia or the bullion on hand, as there is no column for such an entry.

Please prepare a new statement and forward it by return mail.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

On your statement of assets and liabilities for the 31st December 1886, appears a deficiency of $3,871.92 on account of loss on the sale of old copper cents. This loss will appear as a deficiency in the state-

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ment of assets and liabilities published by this Bureau, which is very undesirable. There should be no deficiency in the accounts, and before the close of every quarter any deficiency should be re-imbursed from the proper appropriations or funds so that the bullion accounts at the close of the quarter, as well as the published statements of this Bureau, should not show any deficiency in the Mint service.

From your letter of yesterday, enclosing a statement of the old copper cents received, melted and sold, it would appear that you had, in your hands, proceeds sufficient to cover the loss.

You will please see that no deficiency appears in your accounts hereafter at the close of the quarter.

Very respectfully,
H. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your letter of the 5th instant enclosing statement of silver purchases for the month of January, 1887, is received.

Very respectfully,
H. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Hon. J. N. Evans,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

(Over).

Sir:

Replying to your favor of the 8th instant you are respectfully informed that the number of "Trade Dollars" estimated to be in the United States is about seven millions. What portion is in the hands of banks and what portion in the hands of private individuals it is impossible for the Bureau to state.

I enclose herewith a statement prepared by the director of the Mint about a year ago showing the coinage, import and export of the "trade dollar".

The present bullion value of the "trade dollar" is 80.6 cents. The present bullion value of the standard dollar is 79.4 cents. The coinage of standard silver dollars under the act of February 28th 1878 to the first day of February 1887 has amounted to $252,601,810. Of this amount there were in the Treasury of the United States on the first day of the present month $193,963,783.

The balance are supposed to be in circulation.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 8th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day at the Department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint, of the following parties,

at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Handy & Harman, 150000 Ounces, at $1.02

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 9th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram. Receive uncurrent silver coin transferred for recoinage. Additional appropriation of Five Thousand Dollars made December twenty-second last to cover loss.

Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 9th 1887.

Mr. Jas. P. Kimball,
Care of Supt. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram. Please telegraph Platt refinery in New York to furnish statement. It is important I should have it.

E. O. Leech,
Computer of Bullion.

Will I hold proof of Regulations until you return?

February 9th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram. Bureau of Statistics reports over seven million dollars in Silver bars exported at San Francisco calendar year eighty-six

Confirmed. (over)

Bearing Mint Stamp.

Ascertain and report by wire exact fact what portion were Mint bars, and what remainder, and value at which calculated.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

February 9th 1887.

Assayer, Helena.

Telegram

Your telegram not correct.
Do not include bullion which had reached New York.

Confirmed

Report only bullion on hand and on the way. The bullion which reached New York is included in New York balance.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of Mint.

February 9th 1887.

Supt. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram

Reduce purchasing rate of silver to one hundred and one cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar telegram sent to:—
Supt. U. S. Mint.
New Orleans, La.

February 9th 1887.

Hon. J. K. Poole,
House Representatives.

Sir:

Herewith please find enclosed the statement of operations of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena from 1877 to 1886, inclusive, as requested in your letter of the 8th instant

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Statement showing by fiscal years, the operations of the U. S. Assay-Office at Helena from its Organization, in 1877, to the 30th. of June 1886.

Fiscal Years.	Gold Deposits.	Silver Deposits.	Total.
June 30, 1877.	$ 140,800.23	$ 62,163.11	$ 202,963.34
" " 1878	331,460.51	385,277.90	716,738.41
" " 1879	405,471.16	324,707.17	730,178.33
" " 1880	473,532.96	61,068.23	534,601.19
" " 1881	568,525.13	84,314.97	652,840.10
" " 1882	684,475.53	145,306.05	829,781.58
" " 1883	613,554.16	37,602.65	651,156.81
" " 1884	734,269.64	22,439.18	756,708.82
" " 1885	1,031,160.78	76,062.48	1,107,223.26
" " 1886	1,074,310.05	113,228.07	1,187,538.12
Total	$ 6,057,560.15	$ 1,312,169.81	$ 7,369,729.96

February 9th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $422.20, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1887	$272.20
Wages of Workmen and	1887	
Contingent Expenses	1887	150.00
		$422.20

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 9th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 240, dated Feb'y. 3, 1887, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 2, dated Jan'y, 31, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value was found to be $5,793.83, charges $14.00, and net value $5,779.83. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar letters with the following exceptions, sent to the following;

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 252, dated Feb'y. 4, 1887, ——— Shipment No. 16, dated Jan'y. 31, 1887, ——— the gross value was found to be $31,825.36, charges $81.66, and net value $31,743.70. &c. ———

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 268, dated Feb'y. 7, 1887. ——— Shipment No. 45, dated Feb'y. 5th 1887, ——— the gross value was found to be $13,793.26, charges $39.68, and net value $13,753.58. &c. ———

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February 9th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo., to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $31,384.00 in Gold Coin and $359.70 in Silver Coin, making a total of $31,743.70, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, Colo., as shown by Memorandum No. 252 dated Feby. 4, 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar letters with the following exceptions, sent to the same:

_____ from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay-Office at Charlotte, N. C. to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $5,759.00, in Gold Coin, and $20.83 in Silver Coin, making a total of $5,779.83, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay-Office at Charlotte, as shown by Memorandum No. 240, dated Feb'y. 3, 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

_____ from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay-Office at St. Louis, Mo., to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $13,597.50 in Gold Coin, and $156.08 in Silver Coin, making a total of $13,753.58, being the net value of Bullion heretofore for-

(over).

warded by the Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay-Office at St. Louis, Mo., as shown by Memorandum No. 268, dated Feby. 7th 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 9th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please cause to be struck and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable one gold and eight silver life saving medals for the Life Saving Service, transmitting your account in duplicate.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 9th 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

You are probably aware that, under instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, the collectors of customs for the districts of New Orleans and El Paso furnish this Bureau with monthly statements of the imports and exports of coin and bullion, and the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco forwards from the collector of customs at that port a monthly statement, each of the statements showing the countries from which the bullion or coin was imported or to

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which exported.

Enclosed herewith I send you statements for the calendar year 1886 from the three ports named, compiled from the monthly statements, for the purpose of comparison.

With reference to the item of "other bullion" under the head of silver imported through the custom district of El Paso, the entry on their monthly statement is "ore".

I would be pleased if you would furnish this Bureau with a statement of the gold and silver "ore" imported into the United States by months during the calendar year 1886, as an addition to the imports and exports of coin and bullion which you were kind enough to furnish.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 10th 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Telegram
Confirmed

Forward refinery statements, form ninety-five for July, August, September, November December and calendar year eighty-six at once.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Superintendent Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram
Confirmed.

Forward to day statements of refinery operations for October, November, December and Calendar year.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Joseph Magoffin,
Collector of Customs,
El Paso, Texas.

Telegram Confirmed

Please wire the destination of the Silver Ore imported from Mexico during calendar year eighty-six at your port.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director, Mint.

February 10th 1887.

Supt. Assay-Office,
New York City.

Telegram Confirmed

What disposition was made by depositors of the five Million in fine Silver bars made at your institution during calendar year. Collector reports no bars bearing Mint Stamp exported.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

February 10th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Ordinary and Standard Silver Dollar Expense Accounts, with abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

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I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Ordinary and Refinery Expense Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Month ending January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay-Office at Charlotte, N. C. be increased in the sum of $20,000.—, by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in Charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 10th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased by a transfer of $20,000.—, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson Nev.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $4,200.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year: viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$1,500.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	2,700.—
		4,200.—

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

A. Gittelson, Esq.,
#558, Broad St.,
Agusta, Ga.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are informed that you can deposit old gold at any Mint of the U. S., and receive its coining value less such charges, as may be required to fit it for coinage that is refining, alloying &c.

Old silver is purchased by the Mints at Philadelphia and New Orleans as bullion at a price the Superintendent may be authorized to pay the day the bullion is received at the Mint, at present the price authorized to be paid is 101 cents per ounce.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

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February 10th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find draft for $8.57, on Assistant Treasurer U. S., at Philadelphia for which Mr. D. W. Harrington, Office of the Treasurer U. S., requests that there be forwarded to him, by express care of C. P. Benedict, Agent, Adams' Express Company the following coins, viz:

5 Half Dollars, 1886, 5 Quarter Dollars, 1886, and 3 silver proof sets of 1887.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Herewith returned please find your Tabulated statement of Expenditures for the six months ended December 31, 1886.

A new form for this statement was sent to each Mint and Assay-Office about the 10th of December last. I will thank you to have the statement made on this new form and to cause it to be returned without delay.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Boise City, T. T.

(Over).

Sir:

Your letter of the 2nd. inst., in relation to Tabulated Statements is received. The new forms of this blank were sent to you about the 10th. of December, without letter of transmittal, as it was supposed that their object or purpose, was sufficiently plain to need no explanation. Since you have not received them they must have miscarried, I have therefore caused a few more to be mailed to you to-day.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your letter of the 5th instant enclosing statements of Deposits and Purchases and Domestic Production of Gold and Silver during Month of January, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay-Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Your letter of the 31st ultimo enclosing statements of Deposits and Purchases, Domestic Production and Bars Manufactured of Gold and Silver during Month of January, 1887, has been received.

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Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 10th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your letter of the 31st ultimo enclosing statements of Deposits and Purchases, Domestic Production and Bars Manufactured of Gold and Silver during Month of January, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

Supt. Mint,
San Francisco.

Telegram

The information you telegraphed already here. Important should know what silver bars exported. Collector erroneously reported them to Bureau of Statistics as United States Mint. Should have been reported under "other bullion". See Selby and telegraph if it was his silver bars reported.

Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

February 11th 1887.

Supt. Mint,
San Francisco.

Telegram

Ascertain and wire at what rate silver imported from Mexico calculated.

Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director Mint.

February 11th 1887.

Clark, Dodge & Co.,
New York.

Telegram. Your offer declined. Will accept seventy-five thousand ounces for New Orleans at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.,
Denver, Colo.

Telegram. Your offer declined. Will accept thirty-five thousand ounces at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

Zimmerman & Forshay.
New York.

Telegram Your offer declined. Will accept fifty-thousand ounces at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

James B. Colgate & Co.,
New York.

Telegram Your offer declined. Will accept twenty-five thousand ounces at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar telegram to the preceding, sent to;
Fourth National Bank,
New York.

February 11th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay-Office at Boise City, Idaho, to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $13,321.50, in Gold Coin and $561.67, in Silver Coin, making a total of $13,883.17, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay-Office at Boise City, Idaho, as shown by Memorandum No. 278, dated Feby. 8th 1887, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day, at the Department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint of the following parties, at the rate and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co., 75,000 Ounces, at $1.02

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint

February 11th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, T. T.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of February, 1887, has been approved for the sum of $640.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1887,	$240.—
Wages of Workmen,	1887,	
Contingent Expenses.	1887,	400.—
		$640.—

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 278, dated Feby. 8, 1887, of Gold Bullion forwarded to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 14, dated Jany. 31st 1887, has been examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $13,922.16, charges, $38.99, and net value $13,883.17. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 11th 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States, at New Orleans, the sum of $200,000., on account of Profits on the coinage of silver dollars and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letter with the following exceptions, sent to the same address;

_____ in the name of the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States, at Philadelphia, the sum of $460,000., on account of Profits on the coinage of silver dollars, &c.

February 11th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit in the Treasury of the United States in your name the sum of $200,000., on account of profits on the coinage of silver dollars and that your bullion fund be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Letter similar to the foregoing with the following exception, sent to;

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

the sum of Four Hundred and Sixty Thousand Dollars ($460,000.)

February 11th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find draft for $11.05 the same being issued in payment for Six Silver Life Saving Medals transmitted to this Bureau on the 17th ultimo.

I also enclose medal fund vouchers signed in duplicate.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 12th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Statements have been received at the Bureau marked "confidential" from Howard & Moehle, numbers 8 and 10 John St. New York, and from John Waters' Sons of the same city, giving the value of the gold and silver bars furnished by them during the calendar year 1886 for use in the industrial arts. In classifying the material from which the bars were prepared the firm of Howard and Moehle reported $788,980. as of "domestic bullion", and the firm

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of John Waters' Sons, $244,164. as of "domestic bullion".

I will thank you to ascertain and report by wire to morrow whether any portion of these amounts consisted of United States Mint or assay-office bars, or old material used over.

The object of my inquiry from the private refineries in this respect was to ascertain how much gold and silver of the year's production was used in the industrial arts without having gone to a Mint or assay-office, and the amounts they report of domestic bullion seem too large and probably contain bullion other than that of the year's production.

Please let me hear from you promptly on this subject, and also in reply to the telegram from this Bureau of Friday last.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

P. S. - Please refer to your dealings with these concerns.

February 12th 1887.

Clark, Lodge & Co.,
New York.

Telegram confirmed

Will accept seventy-five thousand ounces additional for Philadelphia at one hundred and two cents per ounce fine.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 12th 1887.

Supt. Mint.
San Francisco.

(Over).

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Ascertain whether Valentine's Estimate for eighty-six has changed to Coining-rate of Silver instead of Commercial-rate as heretofore. If not how he accounts for the large increase in Silver production. Where has it come from besides Montana.

James P. Kimball,
Director Mint.

February 12th 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 11th instant, you are respectfully informed that the only collectors of Customs who report to this Bureau the imports and exports of coin and bullion are those at San Francisco, New Orleans and El Paso, and the form of reporting has been left to the collectors themselves, the main purpose being to obtain information as to the different countries from which the bullion and coin was imported or to which exported.

The collector of customs at El-Paso is the only one, so far as the reports to this Bureau show, who reports "ore".

Whether or not any ore is included in the bullion reports from San Francisco or New Orleans I am unable to say, as the reports do not make any distinction, but I presume that the value reported from New Orleans and San Francisco does not include "ore".

Very respectfully,
James P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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February 12th 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to the statement showing the imports and exports of coin and bullion into and from the United States during the calendar year 1886, herewith returned, your attention is respectfully directed to the fact that under the head of "domestic exports of silver bars bearing the stamp of the United States Mint or assay-office" is entered, as having been exported at the port of San Francisco, $7,898,540. It is doubtful whether any silver bars bearing the stamp of the United States were exported at the port of San Francisco during the year named, and if any but a very small value for the reason that the total value of the silver bars manufactured at the Mint at San Francisco during the calendar year amounted to only $673,080.53, while of the fine silver bars manufactured by the Selby Refinery, amounting during the calendar year according to their reports to this Bureau to $8,124,703.79 none were deposited at the Mint, so that it is evident that the export of silver bars at San Francisco, reported by the collector, do not consist of United States bars, but of bars of private refineries and should have been included in his statement to you under the head of "other bullion".

As your annual statement will be published in my report to Congress on the Production of the Precious Metals in the United States for the calendar year 1886, it is im-

(Over).

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portant that the correction should be made.

In this connection permit me to direct your attention to the advisability of having collectors classify the exports of bullion of both gold and silver as between bars bearing the stamp of the United States and bars of private refineries.

This is done in the case of the imports of bullion but not the exports, and it is very necessary for the purposes of this Bureau that this distinction should be made.

I would also suggest that the gold and silver ore imported into and exported from the United States be reported monthly to the Bureau, either on the form which you are now in the habit of rendering or on a supplementary form.

Silver ore is now coming into the United States from the neighboring republic of Mexico, and of course its value, when refined, is included in the production of some of the large refineries of the United States. To all intents and purposes the ore imported into the United States represents so much silver bullion and may very properly be included in the item of "other bullion" under the head of silver, but as the valuation is probably not so accurate as in the case of silver bullion it might be well to have it entered as a separate item, and indeed I am not sure but that certain classes of silver ore are dutiable.

If these changes could be made from the first of January of the present calendar year it would be of great advantage to

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this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12th 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the accounts of the "Times" and "Record", amounting in the aggregate to $28.— for advertising for proposals for engines and boilers, which amount you will pay from the appropriation for new engine and removal of boiler-plant at your Mint.

I also enclose account of the "Record" for advertising for proposals for five-cent blanks amounting to $19.— which sum is payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your Mint, current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your corrected bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31st 1886 have been received. I am awaiting your corrected statement of assets and liabilities for the same quarter in order to enable me to complete the statement of assets and liabilities

(Over).

of the Mints and Assay Offices.

You do not seem, at your Mint, to see the purpose of this statement of assets and liabilities. The purpose is to ascertain the exact amount in gold bullion and silver bullion in the possession of the Mints and assay offices at a given period.

As you ship your bullion to a coinage Mint, of course all bullion which has reached the Mint is included in its balance, and it becomes necessary to separate the bullion which has not reached the Mint but is in transit from that which has reached the Mint and is included in its balance. This we are unable to do from any statements or accounts received from you, and the Bureau is obliged to depend on your statements which should be furnished promptly on the 30th of June and the 31st of December of each year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 8th instant in reference to a bill of the Adams Express Co., amounting to $1,344.05, for the transportation of minor coins recoined, and requesting to know whether the transportation of minor coins recoined is payable from the appropriation for transportation of minor coins re-is-

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sued or from the minor coinage profit fund, you are informed that the Act authorizing the transfer from the Treasury to the Mint of minor coins for cleaning and re-issue and appropriating $5,000.- for the expense of transportation, is limited to coins cleaned and re-issued and does not provide for the transportation of coins recoined and in the absence of any other provision for the transportation of minor coins re-coined, the same is properly payable from the minor coinage profit fund.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Your statements of Deposits and Purchases, Domestic Production and Bars manufactured of Gold and Silver during the Month of January, 1887, have been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your statement of assets and liabilities for the period ended December 31st, 1886, has been received at this Bureau.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to forward to this Bureau a statement of the total amount of minor coins transferred to you by the Treasurer for cleaning, re-coinage and re-issue, and to state the loss on the re-coinage of the same less the amount of metal contained in the old copper melted and

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 12, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the "Record" amounting to $7.20 for advertising for proposals for one cent blanks, payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your Mint for the current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans La.

Sir:

I return herewith for explanation Monthly Report of the Coiner of the Mint at New

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Orleans for January, 1887. The number of silver dollars coined is reported, you will see, as 940,000 pieces, whereas your telegram of the 31st ultimo indicated a coinage of only 900,000.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14th 1887.

Supt. No. O. Mint,
New Orleans.

Sir:-

Purchases of Silver Bullion have been made this day, at the Department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

Boston & Colorado
Smelting Company, 35,000 Ounces at $1.02

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

The Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I deem it my duty to point out to you the condition in which the Mint Service of the United States would be left should the report of the Committee on Appropriations be passed by Congress.

See Report 3916 — H. R. - 11028.

Mint at Carson Nevada.

(Over).

The estimate for this Mint, as submitted, was for its operation on the footing of an assay office, coinage operations at this Mint for the present or for the near future having been regarded by the Treasury Department as impracticable. From the fact that no appropriation is reported other than for custodian, fuel and lights, in all $1,500. It is here assumed that the suspension of practical operations at this Mint is advisedly reported by the Committee on Appropriations.

I have nothing to say on this point, as to the legislation therefore proposed, as an opportunity was given me by the Committee on Appropriations to express my views as to the expediency involved in the alternative referred to.

In the case of the other institutions materially affected by reductions from the estimates made no opportunity has been afforded me for pointing out the effects of the same, my audience with the committee having been terminated by its adjournment before the several institutions referred to were reached.

I beg leave to say with reference to all the several institutions, except as to the Mint at Carson, that the estimates were made for the smallest appropriations consistent with their business in each case, as determined by the same during the past and present fiscal years, without reduction of salaries, which it is well known are not such as can be reasonably reduced, especially under the cir-

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cumstance that they are for services without exception more or less of an expert character.

I do not consider myself here called upon to engage your attention upon matters of salary, but desire to urge upon the consideration of all to whom this communication shall be committed for consideration that the salaries throughout the Mint Service are at the lowest point consistent with skill, efficiency, accuracy and fidelity in a work wherein these are indispensable requirements. To avoid undue length to this letter, I beg to refer to the original Book of Estimates for the details of the numerous reductions in salaries made in the appropriations for the several assay-offices of the United States.

I now proceed to refer to reductions other than those of salaries, in the order in which the several institutions appear in the report in question.

1. Mint at Denver, Colorado.

Provision is made only for an Assayer in Charge, "who shall perform the duties of Melter," and at a reduced salary, and for one clerk; no provision being made for an Assistant Assayer or for a Melter, nor for a Chief Clerk, who acts as Assayer in Charge in the absence of this officer.

The business of this Mint is of such character and volume that it cannot be performed on such a basis. It will be impracticable to regularly receive deposits without the services of a Melter and of a chief clerk, who is a bonded officer,

(over).

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and of one other clerk besides the one appropriated for, as well as an assistant assayer. For wages $16,000.— was estimated against $14,000.— appropriated last year, and for incidental and contingent expenses $8,000.— against $6,000.— appropriated last year — an increase in both cases having been estimated to meet the demands of increased business. No further provision for these two estimates has been reported than for "incidental and contingent expenses, including labor $8,000.—; or a third of the amount estimated as absolutely requisite for the operations of this Mint for the next fiscal year on the basis of its present business. There is every reason to suppose that in the case of this institution as at Helena, and Boise, the deposits will be largely in excess during the next fiscal year, as compared with those in previous years.

2. Assay-Office at Boise City, Idaho.

For the Assay-Office at Boise City the appropriations reported are the same as for the present year, and $1,000.— for repairs of building, for which $1,500.— was estimated. First, it is important to urge the fact that the business of this institution has more than doubled during the last year; and, second, that the appropriation for wages and contingent expenses including labor, for the current year will be inadequate for the support of this assay office without closing it to deposits toward the close of the fiscal year, an expediency which was forced upon the same institution toward the close of the last fiscal year. An increase of $3,000.— is therefore absolutely necessary for the operation of this institution without suspension for a longer or shorter period.

The Assayer in charge performs the duties of Melter, while all clerical duties as well as those of cashier and assayer in

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charge in the absence of that officer are performed by a single clerk. An increase of $400.— was submitted in his case in view of the inadequacy of his previous salary of $1,000. to secure such services as the institution demands.

3. Assay-Office at Helena, Montana.

The volume of deposits at this institution has, in round numbers increased from $757,000. in the fiscal year 1884 to $1,187,000. in the fiscal year 1886.

In view of this increased volume of business an increase of $1,500.— was asked for wages; and, for restoring the salary of the Assayer in Charge to what it had been previous to last year, an increase of $250.— was submitted.

The bill in question makes a further reduction in the salary of the Assayer in Charge, the Melter and Chief Clerk and leaves the appropriation for wages the same as for last year, namely $12,000.—, while it appropriates $1,000.— less than last year for incidental expenses.

4. Assay-Office at New York.

The reduction reported in "wages of workmen" in the case of this assay-office is $5,000.—.

No reduction can be made in the expenditures of the Assay-Office at New York without impairing its efficiency in a very important field of work, where, indeed, it would be more extensively and seriously felt than in any other branch of the Mint Service.

It is well known that this institution

(over).

is a model of economy and promptitude, and its services for the commercial public of the most exacting character and of the highest importance.

Any reduction in the wages of workmen would, in my opinion, work an injustice to its employees, than whom it would be difficult to instance a worthier or more responsible number of men in any branch of the public service.

5. Assay-Office at St. Louis, Missouri.

A reduction is reported of $3-00.— in salaries. For incidental expenses the amount reported is $400.— less than the estimate which was $600.— less than the amount appropriated for the previous year.

Bureau of the Mint.

The appropriation for books, pamphlets, etc., was reduced last year from $1,000.— to $500.—, which amount is reported in the bill in question. Since I have been in charge of the Bureau this appropriation has been expended for books on subjects connected with monetary and statistical science and books of reference.

I have taken previous occasion to urge the importance of this appropriation as the only means available to the Bureau of the Mint for informing itself, the Treasury Department and Congress on important subjects committed by law to the attention and study of this Bureau.

I beg permission to avail myself of the present occasion to earnestly reiterate the importance of this appropriation without reduction from the estimate as submitted.

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Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay-Office,
St Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant enclosing statements of Deposits and Purchases, Domestic Production and Bars Manufactured of Gold and Silver during the Month of January, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay-Office,
New York.

Sir:

As requested in your communication of the 12th inst., I send you by mail to day twelve bound copies of my report on the Production of the Precious Metals for 1885; and twelve copies of my annual report for the fiscal year 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

As there seems to be some doubt as to

(Over).

the correct value of the gold in deposit #856, and the duplicate abstract sheets retained at your Mint do not correspond with the originals forwarded with your accounts, I return herewith for your inspection and correction, if necessary, the original abstract sheets forwarded.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

Hon. Thomas M. Bowen,
U. S. Senate.

Sir:

Referring to the amendment proposed by you on the 29th ult., to House bill 10.672 "for repairs on the United States Mint at Denver, Colorado, $2,000.", I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a communication which I addressed to Senator Teller of your state on the 3rd inst., on the subject of repairing the Mint building at Denver, in which I recommend to insert in the appropriation "under the supervision of the Director of the Mint", my purpose being to see that the repairs, if the appropriation became available, are promptly made.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 14, 1887.

W. H. Switzler, Esq.,
Chief Bureau of Statistics.

Sir:

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Referring to my letter of the 12th instant in relation to the export of silver bars at the port of San Francisco during the calendar year 1886, I enclose herewith for your information a copy of a dispatch received to day from the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco which confirms the belief expressed in my letter to you that the bars exported at San Francisco during the calendar year 1886, were not U. S. bars and should have been reported by the Collector under the head of "Other bullion".

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Telegram.

February 13, 1887.

Assayer, Mint, Denver.

Forward Rocky Mountain News and Denver Tribune of first of year containing review of mining operations.

Does your estimate of silver increase or decrease from eighty-five?

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Confirmed.

Telegram.

February 15, 1887.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall Street,
New York,

Your offer accepted.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Confirmed.

February 15, 1887.

Telegram

Clark, Dodge & Co.
#51 Wall Street
New York,

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred two and four tenths cents for New Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Informed.

February 15, 1887.

Telegram

H. G. Didrichsen
#43 Exchange Place,
New York,

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred two and four tenths cents per ounce fine.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Confirmed.

Similar telegrams sent to

Fourth National Bank,
New York

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau Street
New York,

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York,

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall Street,
New York.

February 15, 1887.

J. Douglas, Jr.
President - Copper Queen Mining Co. New York,

Sir:-

Please state the lowest price per

pound at which you will deliver ten (10) tons best Ingot Copper to the U. S. Mint at New Orleans.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to
Wm Keyser,
Baltimore Copper Works,
Baltimore, Md.

February 15, 1884.

Adam C. Fox,
#235 Barr St.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, I enclose an excerpt from the "Mint Manual" of a former Director of the Mint, believed to contain all the information now in the possession of this Bureau on the subject of fifty-dollar gold pieces, which were not issued by the Government.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1884.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary expense account with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended January 31, 1884.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

Similar letter sent to (with the exception as noted.)

Supt. U. S. Mint,

Ac, Ref. and Statistical Ex. Accts. San Francisco, Cal.

February 15, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

The following coins reserved at the U. S. Mint at San Francisco during the month of January 1887, and forwarded to this Bureau for special assay, have been received, viz:

3 Eagles	$30.
12 Half Eagles	60.
	90.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar with following exceptions, to

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

"at New Orleans"

13 S. S. Dollars — $13.

February 15, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury for you to advertise in the "Times" and "Record" of your city, inviting proposals for constructing Boiler Room &c.

You will please forward copy of advertisement to the "Daily Age" and "Government Advertiser" in the envelopes herewith. Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

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February 15, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Jas. B. Colgate & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.024
Fourth National Bank — 50,000 " " 1.024
J. & W. Seligman & Co. — 20,000 " " 1.024

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar except as to parties and amounts to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 100,000 ounces at $1.024

February 15, 1887.

John O. Watkins,
146 Front Street
New York,

Sir:-

As requested in your letter of the 12th instant, I enclose printed circular of information in regard to medals and cabinet coins for sale by the mint at Philadelphia, to which all inquiries should be addressed.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 15, 1887.

The
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your approval, contract executed in triplicate by Daniel M. Fox, Superintendent of the Mint U. S. at Philadelphia, in behalf of the United States and the Kensington Engine Works, for the construction of two 150 horse power engines for the mint at Philadelphia.

The Act (Sundry Civil Bill, approved August 4, 1886,) making the appropriation for the removal of the boiler-plant and new boilers and engines for the mint at Philadelphia, provides that the same shall be done under the immediate supervision of the Superintendent of the mint, on contract subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The contract transmitted herewith is satisfactory to this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 15, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 4th instant returning Registers of Deposit made for the use of your mint, I have to say that the Government Printer cannot rebind these books and add the leaves required for silver deposits and silver purchases; they have in consequence been re-mailed to you to-day.

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The headings of a sufficient number of leaves necessary for your silver deposits and purchases can be changed to serve your purpose. To do this will require but little additional clerical work.

In explanation of the error in manufacture, I would state that your requisition for these books called for "four gold registers of deposits of 150 leaves", without further description, and a sample sheet for gold deposits was enclosed with it; but the sheets for silver deposits & purchases were omitted.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the ordinary and standard silver dollar accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, for the month ended December 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

Your communication of the 10th instant, enclosing statement of assets and liabilities

for the period ended December 31, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Sir:-

For your information, as bearing upon the question of the security of registered mail matter detained at Lima, Idaho, more than twenty-four hours, I herewith transmit copy of letter addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury by the Postmaster General, in which he states that "arrangements "have now been completed for direct exchange "of registered matter by inner sacks, between "Boise City and Ogden City, Utah", and that this measure, if it is believed, will effect close connection between the stage line and the railway trains.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

As requested in your letter of February 8th, I enclose herewith voucher in duplicate, in favor of Geo. McLaughlin for services rendered during the month of January 1887, pertaining to your ordinary expense accounts for the same month.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

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February 16, 1884.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

The Senate having confirmed the appointment of Joseph R. Ryan, as assayer of your mint, the President of the United States has commissioned him in that capacity, under date of January 29, 1884.

Under the circumstances it will be necessary for Mr. Ryan to renew his bond, the blanks for which will be found herewith enclosed. I also enclose Mr. Ryan's commission for delivery to him upon receipt of notification from this Bureau of the approval of his bond by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1884.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

Deposit-Memorandum, No. 305, dated Feby 11, 1884, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, shipments No. 5, 6, 7 & 8, dated January 31, 1884, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $16,201.40, charges $42.47 and net value $16,159.23. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department, for examination and settlement, your ordinary & standard silver dollar expense accounts for the month ended December 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Enclosed please find cancelled bill of P. F. Nouvet for wood, which has been replaced in your ordinary expense account for the month of December, by the corrected one transmitted in your letter of the 4th instant. I will thank you to cause bills of this kind to be more closely examined in future before filing them as vouchers with your accounts.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary and refinery expense accounts

with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find $2.94 for which please return to this Bureau one silver proof set and a gold dollar, coinage of 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find the accounts of the "Times" Philadelphia, and "Graphic" New York, for advertising proposals for five cent blanks, amounting in the aggregate to $37.50, payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your mint for the current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been

made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates & for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive & pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Handy & Harman – 100,000 ounces at $1.024

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I understand that you are now enabled to employ the whole force of adjusters during the office hours of the mint, this having been the purpose for which the enlargement of the quarters was authorized.

I omitted to ask you about this, but assume that you have discontinued the evening shift of adjusters, so that women shall not be forced upon the streets after dark.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith, please find copy of letter, dated 7th instant, from the Superintendent of the Mint at New Orleans, stating

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that the reverse coinage dies of 1885 & 1886 reported by you under date of 27th ultimo, as not having been returned, would be shipped the mint at Philadelphia, without delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Emil Sonnek,
Radom, Ills.

Sir:-

Upon receipt by the Secretary of the Treasury of your communication of the 4th February, the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia was requested to examine the coins which you sent the Secretary and make an estimate of their probable value as curiosities. I enclose a copy of the report.

These coins remain in the custody of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia subject to such disposition as you may wish to direct.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

I have the honor to request the purchase of 50,000 stout manilla envelopes, of the size of sample hereto attached, for the use of the several coinage mints.

Under the new Regulations for the protection of Pyx coins, large quantities of these envelopes will be required and it would be both convenient and economical if they could be kept in stock in the stationery division of the department.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 16, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $15,936.50 in gold coin and $222.73 in silver coin, making a total of $16,159.23, being the net value of bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, as shown by memorandum No. 305, dated Feby 11, 1887, of gold bullion deposited at said mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 17, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the ordinary expense account of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office

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at Boise City, for the month ended December 31, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1887.

Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Works,
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:-

Your offer to deliver to the Mint of the U. S. at New Orleans ten (10) tons best Ingot Copper at 10 8/10 cents per pound is accepted, and you will please deliver the same as early as practicable.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 17, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department, for examination and settlement, your ordinary expense account for the month ended December 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 17, 1887.

J. Douglas, Jr.
Presidt Copper Queen Mining Co.
37 & 39 Wall St.
New York,

Sir:-

A lower offer having been received, your offer to deliver ten tons best Ingot Copper to the mint of the U. S. at New Orleans, is respectfully declined.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 17, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Assayer of this Bureau has forwarded by Adams Express one box containing 22,712 ounces standard gold in bar, and 200.07 " " silver in two bars, resulting from the assay of coins sent to this Bureau for assay.

Please return to him free of charge the coinage value thereof.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 17, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

I have approved & referred to the proper accounting officers of the

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department for examination and settlement, a bill of the Stationery Division of the Treasury Department for stationery shipped you on the 14th ultimo, amounting to $13.46 payable from the appropriation for wages and contingent expenses of your office for the fiscal year 1887.
Duplicate bill herewith.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Letters similar with exceptions as follows, to

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

+ + + John Lemp for Ice furnished your office from May 19 to June 30, 1886, amounting to $10. + + + + + + + wages and contingent expenses of your office, fiscal year 1886.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + the Stationery Division of the Treasury Department + + + 15th ultimo, amounting to $19.10 + + + + wages and contingent expenses of your office for the fiscal year 1887. Duplicate bill herewith.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

+ + + the Stationery Division of the Treasury Department for stationery + + + 22d ultimo, amounting to $79.58 + + + contingent expenses of your office, fiscal year 1887. Duplicate bill herewith.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

+ + + the Stationery Division of the Treasury Department, for stationery + + + 15th ultimo,

amounting to $82.25 + + + contingent expenses of your mint, fiscal year 1887. Duplicate bill herewith.

February 18, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your corrected bullion accounts, with abstracts and vouchers for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 18, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letter sent to
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

February 18, 1887.

Telegram.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall St.
New York,

Confirmed.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred two and forty hundredths cents per ounce fine for Nevada

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Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 18, 1887.

Telegram.

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York,

Confirmed.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and two and forty hundredths cents per ounce fine.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram sent to

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall St.
New York.

February 18, 1887.

Telegram.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York City,

Confirmed.

Please ascertain and report from what refineries Platt received the silver, between two and three million ounces, which he states was from other refineries.

It will be treated as confidential.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Also in "Mining Book" - Press Copy with "Mining letters".

February 18, 1887.

Omaha and Grant Smelter,
Omaha, Nebraska,

Telegram.

What portion of the bullion and ore handled by your Denver works during eighty-six came from Mexico? The information will be confidential. Answer collect.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of Mint.

Also in "mining book."

February 18, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram.

Forward statement immediately, showing expenditures on account of Assay Commission each year from eighteen hundred and seventy four to eighty six, inclusive.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 18, 1887.

Saml. T. Riles,
#1733 "G" St.
Washington,

Sir:-

Your letter of the 16th instant in the matter of the claim of Nicholas Hauck et al, former employés of the mint at New Orleans, is received.

In reply, permit me to repeat what was communicated to you by my predecessor April 21, 1886: "the balances to the credit of "the appropriations for the support of the New "Orleans mint for the fiscal years 1880 and "1881 have lapsed into the Treasury and "therefore Mr. Hauck must bring suit in the

"Court of Claims, or apply to Congress for relief."

A copy of this communication and of one dated June 25, 1886, from the Superintendent of the Mint at New Orleans, on the general merits of claims similar to those to which you refer, will be found herewith and may be considered a sufficient and final answer to your reference to the matter.

Bills (S. 1557; H. R. 5642) for the relief of certain persons claiming pay for "overtime" alleged to have accrued to them (while employed at a per diem compensation for eight hours' labor) were introduced by Senator Gibson and the late Representative Kahn, of Louisiana, at the first session of the present Congress; but as to what action, if any, has since been taken by the respective Committees on Claims, this Bureau has no information.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1887.

Messrs.
Jas. N. Green & Co.
924 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sirs:-

Your account for Oertling Assay Balance, Weights &c. shipped to the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, amounting to $189.68 has been transmitted to the Superintendent of that institution with instructions to forward you a draft for the amount.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director, Mint.

February 18, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find the account of Messrs. Jas. W. Queen & Co. of Philadelphia for 1 Oertling Assay Balance, No. 12a and Assay Weights imported by them for the use of your mint.

If the Assay Balance &c. are found satisfactory, you remit Messrs. Queen & Co. a draft for the amount ($189.68) of their account.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 18 1887.

Sir:-

You are requested to forward to this Bureau a statement showing the number of dies received by you from the Philadelphia mint during the current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Similar letter sent to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

February 18, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been

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made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates & for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive & pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 100,000 ounces at $1.024.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1887.

Letter similar to the preceding one, except as to parties & amounts to

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Handy & Harman — 125,000 ounces at $1.024

February 18, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Permit me to advise you that this Bureau is awaiting replies to the two letters addressed you under date of 21st January, 1887, relative to the official bonds of Messrs. Cochran & Eshenick.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The official register of this Bureau

charge Charles H. Bauer, Assister in the Melter & Refiner's department of your mint to have been removed on the 27th ultimo. This employé is credited with full time for the month on the Melter & Refiner's roll for December. I will thank you to explain whether he actually performed service to the end of the month or whether his having been credited with doing so, is the result of an error.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 18, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

In reply to yours of February 10th asking authority for the purchase of a carpet for the large adjusting room, to be used as a cloak room, and, as I infer, for luncheon purposes, I have to say that it appears to me that such a provision would be of the character of a luxury and not of a necessity, especially under the circumstances that a woolen carpet, such as I suppose you refer to, would become very rapidly soiled under such use.

My suggestion would be that if the floor is good enough it be painted or stained. This has been done in the cloak room just provided for the adjusters of the mint at Philadelphia and has proved very satisfactory, and far more tidy than would be the case with a woolen carpet. The cracks have been puttied and the floor painted in

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squares, and the appearance is very neat & the effect very durable.

I will not decide this matter until you have an opportunity to consider this suggestion. If the plan suggested is feasible the painting might be done by employés of the mint as was the case at Philadelphia.

As to the matter of the roof, I have referred it for the action of the Supervising Architect, but, from experience in such matters, infer that action will be slow.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Edw. S. Clancy,
Chicago & Alton R.R. Co.
Bloomington, Ills.

Sir:-

Your two letters of the 16th February, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, have been referred to this Bureau.

The law (Section 3517 R.S.) seems to have intended that "the year of coinage" should be on the obverse (or, as commonly understood, the "face" or "head" of United States coins and a "designation of the value" on the reverse.

Thus it appears that the obverse, or as you say the "head", of the type of "5 cents" pieces referred to, is the side upon which has been stamped "the year of coinage".

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith please find your tabulated statement of expenditures for the six months ended Dec. 31, 1886, which is returned to you for signature and correction as to period covered by the statement.

Note pencil change.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 9th instant enclosing corrected statements of deposits and purchases domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during the month of January, has been received.

The statements enclosed in your letter of the 31st ultimo are returned herewith as requested.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

Your statement of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars

manufactured of gold and silver during month of January, 1887, have been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram.

Receive fifty thousand ounces from Zimmermann & Hoskay at one hundred two and four tenths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 18th instant advising shipment by Adams Express Company of one gold and eight silver life saving medals and enclosing your account for the same, has been received.

I have transmitted the medals to

the Secretary of the Treasury with your account as requested, that a draft for the amount $60.90 be remitted you as early as practicable.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Zimmermann & Forshay — 50,000 ounces at $1.024
J. & W. Seligman & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.024

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar except as to parties and amounts to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.
35,000 ounces at $1.024

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 10th instant,

I have purchased of the Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Company ten (10) tons best Ingot Copper at 10 8/10 cents per pound.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram.

Recoin into dimes uncurrent silver coin.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Confirmed.

February 19, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 9th inst. enclosing statements of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during the month of January, 1887, have been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith one gold and eight silver life saving medals struck in compliance with your request of the 9th instant.

I also transmit herewith the account

of the Superintendent of the Mint for the same, and have to request that a draft for the amount $60.20 be transmitted as early as practicable.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 19, 1887.

The Secretary
of the Treasury,

Sir:-

I have the honor to forward herewith, for transmittal to Congress, my report as Director of the Mint on the production of the precious metals in the United States for the calendar year 1886, being my second report and the seventh of this series of reports prepared by this Bureau under annual appropriations and printed, under the same title, by order of Congress.

Upon presenting the previous report of this series I took occasion to refer to the history of legislation as contained in the acts of appropriation, whence is derived the authority for the work and expenditure of which this series of reports is the result.

I also took occasion to express at some length what seemed to me to be a proper view of the work assigned to the Director of the Mint, and to explain its subsidiary character in relation to the fiscal duties of this Bureau of the Treasury Department.

In that letter some suggestions were made, in view of what I considered to be in the line of a more practicable co-ordination of the work referred to with

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the regular duties of this Bureau. Since the date of that letter, June 10, 1886, the time has been so short and the occupation of Congress during its short term so engrossing, that I have not found the way of taking any further steps to refer such views to the consideration of Congress along with definite proposals in consonance with those views.

In the report itself I availed myself of the opportunity to discuss the methods employed by this Bureau in performing the subsidiary duty of collecting the statistics of the precious metals in the United States, and to compare its results with the statistical contributions on the same subject on the part of private individuals, well-known writers and authorities.

Wishing to avoid any unnecessary repetition in such reports of this series as fall to my hand, I beg to refer to my previous report, and my letter transmitting it, in order to establish the consecutiveness of several explanations and lines of argument herewith presented.

The editorial and statistical labors of this report have been shared, the same as last year, with Mr. E. O. Leech, of the Bureau of the Mint, Computer of Bullion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

The Secretary,
of the Treasury,

February 19, 1887.

Sir:-

Since assuming the duties of this office, I have become aware of the failure of the provisions of law governing the procedure of the annual trial of coins and contained in the Coinage Act of 1873 to satisfy several of the Commissions appointed by the President under the same act, on the grounds that the sections named are not sufficient to accomplish the purpose for which they were intended.

Efforts have been repeatedly made by different Commissions to present this matter to the attention of Congress. Such efforts have generally failed upon points of order tending to exclude from the cognizance of the Commission any matter beyond its specific duties as prescribed by Sections 3539 and 3547 R. S., cited in the memorandum below.

On the occasion of the last meeting of the Annual Assay Commission at the Mint at Philadelphia, February 9, 1887, resolutions to the same purpose were passed, as also below cited. These resolutions were duly laid before the President of the United States, and by the President referred to the Treasury Department for suitable action in the premises.

It becomes, therefore, my duty to address to you the present communication, with the citations mentioned, along with amendments drafted by me, to the sections of the Revised Statutes relating to the

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annual trial of coins.

It will be noted that it is proposed to amend the present laws mainly —

(1) in respect to the mode of taking coin for assay from the several coinage mints of the United States; (2) as to the place of meeting of the Annual Assay Commission; (3) as to the constitution of the Commission, particulary in respect to ex-officio members, and (4) as to the mode of providing for the re-imbursement of personal traveling expenses of the members of the Commission, other than officers of the Treasury Department or of the Mint Service, and while in discharge of the duties of the Commission.

Under the first & second heads the accompanying resolutions of the last Assay Commission are sufficiently explicit.

Under the third head, the changes proposed in ex-officio membership are such as it would seem should follow from the proposed change in the place of meeting.

Of the subject under the fourth head it remains for me to state that the expenses of the Commission have heretofore entered into the estimate of the contingent expenses of the mint at Philadelphia, appropriated for in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill.

It has hitherto been the custom to call upon members of the Commission at the close of the meeting, for statements of their personal expenditures while absent from home upon the duties of this Commission, to be re-imbursed from the Contingent

appropriation of the Mint at Philadelphia. This mode of re-imbursement of expenses often proves unsatisfactory, at least to other than ex-officio members, from the fact that such expenses on the part of private individuals have to be estimated and distinguished as between those of a necessary and an unnecessary kind. It is therefore proposed, in this matter, to adopt a mode of re-imbursement uniform with that in the case of officers of the Army traveling on duty and to substitute a per diem allowance by way of compensation for hotel and other personal expenses during the brief session of the Commission.

Appended hereto will be found an exhibit of the estimates & expenditures for the Annual Assay Commission each year since the passage of the Coinage Act of 1873. Considering the other changes proposed, it is probable that between the present and proposed mode of re-imbursement of expenditures there would be no material difference in the total amount.

It is to be hoped that the present communication can be laid before Congress in time to be concurrently acted upon by both houses before adjournment. I have, therefore, the honor to suggest that, out of respect for the resolutions of the Assay Commission of 1884, the substance of this letter be transmitted to the President pro tempore of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with your own recommendations in the premises.

It may not be improper for me to add that in concurrence with the

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Assay Commission of 1887, I consider that the present statutes tend to a perfunctory, instead of a critical, trial of coins, from want of more precise laws on the subject; and that a transfer of the annual trial of coins from one of the mints under inquiry to the executive office of the mint service in the Treasury Department at Washington would be a highly desirable amendment of law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Memorandum.

Sections 3539 and 3547 of the Revised Statutes (in point) follow:

Copy

Treasury Department
Office of Comptroller of the Currency.
February 15, 1887.

Mr. President:

The undersigned, a Committee appointed for the purpose, have the honor to present the accompanying report and resolutions, and to bring to your attention the following reasons for the recommendations of the Commission as to a change in the law.

These reasons rest upon the fact that the Commission found itself without sufficient evidence that the coins presented for the tests of weight and fineness were true and fair samples of the several deliveries from the different mints.

The Commission could

accept these coins as such samples only upon the assumption that the various mint officers had performed accurately and conscientiously the duties prescribed to them by the laws; but as the accuracy and fidelity of these officers is the very matter to be ascertained by the annual assay, their assumption at the outset is obviously destructive of the effectiveness of the inquest for the purposes declared in the law.

It appeared, therefore, to be the duty of the Commission to direct attention to the propriety of confiding to others than the officers of the mints the drawing of sample coins, and their custody until the meeting of the Annual Assay Commission.

As the operations of the mint at Philadelphia are larger than the combined operations of the others, it seems especially proper to secure indubitable evidence of the authenticity and genuineness of samples representing each delivery from that mint, and to this end this Commission has suggested that the sample coins from all the mints be transmitted to Washington and there kept in custody until the meeting of the Annual Assay Commission.

Very respectfully,
(signed) W. L. Trenholm,
Philip E. Chazal.

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Extract from the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Assay Commission, Philadelphia, February 10, 1887.

As press copy of this "Extract".

On motion of Mr. Holbrook, it was --

Resolved, That the Assay Commission having examined and tested the reserved coins of the several mints for the year 1886, and it appearing that these coins do not differ from the standard fineness and weight by a greater quantity than is allowed by law, the trial is considered and reported as satisfactory.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, That in the judgment of the Annual Assay Commission of 1887, the value of the work of the Commission will be greatly enhanced by holding the future meetings of the Assay Commission at Washington, in the Bureau of the Mint; that the coins reserved for examination should be from lots selected at random by an officer of the Mint Bureau, under regulations prescribed by the Director of the Mint.

Resolved, That this resolution be transmitted to the President, as a part of the report of the Commission, with the recommendation that legislation in accordance with this resolution be enacted.

Resolved, That the Commission, in making

these recommendations, disclaims any reflections upon the officers of this or any other mint.

Mr. Trenholm moved the appointment of a committee of three to deliver the report of the Commission to the President, with instructions to accompany it with a letter of transmittal, setting forth the reasons of the Commission for arriving at their conclusions.

The motion was adopted.

The chair appointed Messrs. Trenholm, Chagal, Winchell.

Section 3539 R. S. as amended.

At every delivery of coins made by a coiner to a superintendent, it shall be the duty of such superintendent, in person, in the presence of the coiner and assayer, to take indiscriminately, without previous weighing or other special test, a certain number of pieces of each variety of coins; for the annual trial of coins, the number for gold coins being not less than one piece for each one thousand pieces or any fractional part of one thousand pieces delivered; and for silver coins not less than one piece for each two thousand pieces or any fractional part of two thousand pieces delivered.

The pieces so taken shall be enclosed each by itself in an envelope and the whole number of pieces from each delivery so enclosed, together with a certificate that the requirements herein provided have been

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complied with, shall be carefully sealed up by the superintendent in an envelope on which shall be written the date of the delivery, the number and denomination of the pieces therein contained and the amount of the delivery from which they were taken. The form of the certificate to be signed by the superintendent, coiner and assayer shall be prescribed by the Director of the Mint.

The seal used for this purpose shall be a special seal issued by the Director of the Mint, and, when not in use, kept in the safe of each mint.

The sealed parcels containing the reserved pieces shall be deposited in a safe, designated for the purpose at each mint, which shall be kept under the joint care of the superintendent and assayer and be so secure that neither can have access to its contents without the presence of the other; and the pieces reserved from the coinage of each mint shall, in their sealed envelopes, be transmitted quarterly to the United States Treasurer at Washington, to be retained in his custody, unopened and with unbroken seals, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

A record shall be kept at the same time of the number and denomination of the pieces so taken for the annual trial of coins and of the number and denomination of the pieces represented by them and so delivered, a copy of which record shall be transmitted quarterly to the Director of the Mint.

Other pieces may, at any time,

be taken for such tests as the Director of the Mint shall prescribe.

To secure a due conformity in the gold and silver coins to their respective standards of fineness and weight, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia who may be designated from year to year, by the President of the United States, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Washington, the Assayer of the Bureau of the Mint, the Assayer of the Assay Office at New York and such other persons as the President shall from time to time designate, shall meet as Assay Commissioners at the Office of the Bureau of the Mint, Treasury Department, Washington, to examine and test, in the presence of the Director of the Mint, the fineness and weight of the coins reserved by the several mints for this purpose, on the second Wednesday in February, annually, and may continue their meetings by adjournment, if necessary.

If a majority of the Commissioners fail to attend at any time appointed for their meeting, the Director of the Mint shall call a meeting of the Commissioners at such other time as he may deem convenient.

It shall be the duty of this Commission to count the coin contained in each sealed envelope, and to verify the contents of the same with the accompanying certificate of its contents, and also with the record transmitted from each coinage mint to the Director of the Mint.

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Such a number of coins shall be taken from such envelopes as may be determined by the Commissioners, for assay, and the remainder returned to the Treasurer of the United States, to whom account shall be rendered by the Chairman of the Committee on assaying for the number of coins taken for assay, to be returned in bullion at the close of the assay.

If, upon counting, any sealed envelope be found to contain less than the number of coins as certified, the case shall be reported to the Director of the Mint, and the Superintendent of the mint of coinage held accountable for such discrepancy.

During the count and verification of the coins by the Assay Commission the sealed envelopes and their contents shall be considered in the custody of the Treasurer of the United States to whom shall be given a receipt by the Chairman of the Assay Commission for the number of coins taken for assay.

It shall also be the duty of this commission, by such examinations and tests as may be deemed necessary, to ascertain whether these coins do not differ from the standard fineness and weight by a greater quantity than is allowed by law; and if it so appears the trial shall be considered and reported as satisfactory.

If, however, any greater deviation from the legal standard or weight appears, this fact shall be certified to the President; and if, on a view of the circumstances of the case, he shall so decide, the officers implicated in the error shall be thence-

forward disqualified from holding their respective offices.

And for the purpose of defraying the personal expenses of the members of the Commission, other than those in the employ of the United States, the same mileage shall be allowed to each member for travel to and from his home as is allowed by the regulations of the Army of the United States to officers of the Army while traveling on duty to and from their stations, and ten dollars each day while serving upon the Commission in Washington, to be paid out of an appropriation to be estimated for by the Director of the Mint, for expenses of the Annual Assay Commission.

Department of Treasury

Expenses on account of Assay Commission each year from 1874 to 1886, inclusive.

1874	$1,329.92	Brought forward	$8,972.57
1875	1,262.50	1881	1,005.19
1876	881.18	1882	607.15
1877	1,356.92	1883	1,111.01
1878	1,444.82	1884	1,016.77
1879	1,233.01	1885	1,170.67
1880	1,464.22	1886	1,547.89
	$8,972.57		$15,431.25

The estimates for this appropriation, so far as they have been traced at the present writing, have been $2,000 a year.

The expenditure has varied according to the personal expenditures of the Commission, increasing in the ratio of the distance traveled to and from the homes of the several Commissioners.

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The expenditure has in certain years, as in 1876 and 1882, been low as compared with the average, owing to the fact that members of the Commission were not selected, as in other years, with the purpose of securing a uniform geographical representation from different parts of the whole country.

February 21, 1887.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.
Denver, Col.

Telegram

Tuesday being legal holiday, bids for sale of silver will be considered Wednesday at usual hour,

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to

Clark, Dodge & Co.
#51 Wall St.
New York.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York

Fourth National Bank,
New York,

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York,

Zimmermann & Goshay,
#19 Wall Street
New York.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your bullion accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the quarter ended December 31, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 21, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 336, dated Feby 17, 1887, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the United States mint at Philadelphia, shipment No. 3, dated Feby 17, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $9014.93, charges $38.38 and net value $9031.82. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 21, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

I return herewith for your signature, daily statement of receipts, payments, balances &c. bearing date of the

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16th instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

The statement of assets and liabilities of your mint for December 31st was received at this Bureau this morning.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Hon. D. R. James,
House of Representatives,

Sir:-

Will you kindly refer to Ex. Doc. No. 174, being letter from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting a letter from me in relation to appropriations for the mints and assay offices, referred to the Committee on Appropriations February 14, 1887?

As I scarcely look for any amendment of their bill as reported from the Committee, I beg to commend to your attention the Assay Office at New York, in order that the deficiency may be restored in the House if possible. I think there is otherwise no doubt but that it would be done in the Senate.

With regard to the other matters passed by your Committee, I fear that

action will be deferred too long for the action of the Senate.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

Sir:-

I have requested that the bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of $100,000; and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York in standard silver dollars.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

The Secretary of the Treasury has this day been requested to cause the sum of $5,355; to be transferred from the bullion fund of your mint to that of the mint at Philadelphia, payable in silver coin, the same being the value of the coins of your mint, reserved during the calendar year 1886, and forwarded to Philadelphia for test at the annual assay and now in the custody of the superintendent of that mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

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Letter, similar to preceding, except as to amount &c. to

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+++ $24,985.40 + + + + + + + + + + + + +
payable in $24,600. gold coin and $385.40 in silver coin + + + + +

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your communication of the 17th instant enclosing a statement of loss on sale of sweeps belonging to your bullion account for December 31st has been received at this Bureau and will be placed with your accounts.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Secretary of the Treasury has been requested to cause the following amounts to be transferred from the bullion fund of the mints at San Francisco and New Orleans to the bullion fund of your mint, being the value of the coins of the first named institutions reserved during the calendar year 1886 and forwarded for tests at the annual assay and now in your custody:

San Francisco — $24,600. in gold,
$385.40 in silver ~~~

New Orleans ——— #5,355. in silver.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Referring to a telegram from this Bureau of the 10th instant calling for refinery (form 95) statements for October, November and December of calendar year 1886, to which no reply has been received, I have to call your attention to the fact that the business of this Bureau has been delayed by the non-receipt of these statements and request that attention be given to this matter without further delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

This is not intended to hurry the work of the refinery but only to obtain the monthly reports to complete the statistical tables of the Bureau. E. O. L.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Referring to the contract between the United States and the Edgemoor Iron Co. executed in quadruplicate and of which are herewith returned, your attention is directed to the fact that the bond is signed by

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William Sellers & John Sellers, Jrs.

The bond is open to two objections; first, that the principal, the Edgemoor Iron Co., has not signed the bond by its authorized officers, and, secondly, that the sureties on the bond, or at least one of them, are officers in the company which is the principal in the bond.

Other than these, the contract is free of objections, and if you will have a new bond prepared, properly signed by the officers of the company for the company and by two good and sufficient sureties who are not officers of the company, and return the papers to this Bureau, the execution of the contract will be proceeded with.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Hon. William M. Springer,
Chairman, Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives,

Sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 18th instant addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury and by him referred to this Bureau, you are respectfully informed first: The records of this office do not show any order from the President suspending Calvin J. Cowles and George B. Hanna, the officers of the assay office at Charlotte, N. C. in 1875.

Secondly, There was no act of Congress abolishing the assay office at Charlotte

N. C. except that the legislative act for the fiscal year 1876, failed to appropriate for the support of the institution.

Thirdly, Mr. Cowles was re-commissioned as Assayer and Melter October 6, 1876. Mr. Hanna was not re-commissioned for the reason that the office of melter was merged into that of Assayer. On the 1st of July 1878, however, he was appointed a clerk at the Assay office at Charlotte at a salary of $1,000 a year and was subsequently promoted to Assistant Assayer.

Fourthly, So far as this Bureau is aware the accounts of these officers were settled promptly and satisfactorily.

Fifthly, Mr. Cowles was paid from the 6th of October 1876, and Mr. Hanna from the 1st of July 1878.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 4th instant enclosing statement of assets and liabilities of your mint to December 31, 1886, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Frank Resor,
Peoria, Ill.

Sir:-

The edition of the report for the year 1879 is exhausted. I send you a copy for the year 1878.

In some of the reports since 1879 you will find a table of countries issuing paper money.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at New York be increased in the sum of 100,000 by a transfer of that amount in standard silver dollars & that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 21, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at Leban-

lotte to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $8,993.- in gold coin and $38.82 in silver coin, making a total of $9031.82, being the net value of bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, as shown by memorandum No. 336, dated Feby 17, 1887, of gold bullion deposited at said mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 21, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that you will cause a transfer to be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco to that of the mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $24,985.40 payable in $24,600.- in gold coin and $385.40 in silver coin, the same being the value of coins of the first named institution reserved during the calendar year 1886, and forwarded to Philadelphia for test by the Annual Assay Commission and now in the custody of the Superintendent of that mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter to same address, similar with the following exceptions

+ + + + + + + U. S. Mint at New Orleans
+ + + + + + $5,355.- in silver coin + + + + +

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February 23, 1887.

Telegram.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall St.
New York,

Confirmed.

One dollar one and six tenths cents departments offer.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 23, 1887.

Telegram

Clark, Dodge & Co.
#51 Wall Street,
New York,

Confirmed.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred one and six tenths cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director

February 23, 1887.

Telegram.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York,

Confirmed.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred one and six tenths cents per ounce fine.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram sent to

Mandy & Norman,
24 Nassau St.
New York,

Fourth National Bank
New York.

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall St. New York.

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February 23, 1887.

Hon. E. Barksdale,
House of Representatives,

Telegram.

Report on production of precious metals has been referred to Committee on Coinage, Weights & Measures, instead of your Committee on Printing. The Speaker has been advised. Please see that reference is changed to your committee & offer a resolution to that. Please wire in reply.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 23, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the ordinary, refinery & standard silver doll. coinage & storage accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Brick City, D. T.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary expense account with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended

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January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, T. T.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 16th instant enclosing statements of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured for the month of January 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, T. T.

Sir:-

Replying to your communication of the 16th instant relative to paying the express charges on shipments of gold bullion to the mints for coinage, you are respectfully informed that the express company will forward their account for this bullion, with the receipt of the Philadelphia mint attached of the delivery of the bullion, at the end of each month, or quarter as they prefer to this Bureau for payment from the proper appropriation.

You will close out your transportation account by carrying the balance, if any, to the credit of your profit-

loss account.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Act. Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, T. T.

Sir:-

Your statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, is herewith returned for correction.

The amount allowed you for contingent expenses during the quarter and the amount entered in your accounts for the months of September, October and November was $368.58 and not $378.88 as entered on your statement.

Please return the enclosed statement with the corrected one in order to avoid the necessity of re-verifying the entries.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

I return herewith for correction as indicated in pencil, your quarterly statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31, 1886.

The amount expended by you for contingent expenses during the quarter and approved by this Bureau was $292.26

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and not $292.37 as entered on your statement.

Please return the enclosed statement with your corrected one in order to avoid the necessity of re-verifying the entries.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Your statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, is herewith returned for correction.

The amount allowed you for contingent expenses during the quarter and the amount entered in your ordinary expense accounts for the months of October, November and December was $530.27, instead of $530.37, as entered on your statement.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

John R. Pearson,
Indianapolis, Indiana,

Sir:-

In reply to your inquiry (without date) addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, I enclose an excerpt on the silver dollar of 1804 from "The Current Gold and Silver Coins of all Nations" (Michele).

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston, Acting Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer of New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 150,000 ounces at $1.016

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint

Letter, similar except as to parties & amounts to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia Pa.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.016 —

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

You will please cause the following coinage dies to be prepared and forwarded to the mint of the U. S. at San Francisco as early as practicable, viz:

Half Eagles, obverse — 10
Half Eagles, reverse — 10

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

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February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 21st instant enclosing bids received for eighty (80) barrels of Melter & Refiner's sweeps, has been received.

The bid of Messrs. E. Balbach & Son being the highest and best for the interest of the government your acceptance of the same is approved.

The bids are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary refinery & standard silver doll. coinage & storage accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 21st instant enclosing statements of deposits and

purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured for the month of January 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find account of "The Star", New York, amounting to $19.- for advertising proposals for five cent blanks, payable from the appropriation for contingent expenses of your mint for the current fiscal year.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

C/T. No. 67356 for $100.74, being on account of re-coinage of silver coin, enclosed in your communication of the 12th inst., has been received, properly endorsed and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, personal credit to be given you in your milling accounts and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

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Two letters to same address, similar with the following exceptions

+ + + + + C/D, No. 6757, for $2.93 + + + gain on re-coinage of silver + + + 15th inst. + + + + + + +

+ + + + + C/D, No. 6758 for $160,000. + + + profits on minor coins + + + 17th inst. + + + + + + + +

February 23, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The death of the surety being admitted, per your letter of the 19th instant, you will please instruct the Warrant Clerk of the mint at Philadelphia to promptly execute a new bond.

I enclose herewith copy of my letter of March 9, 1886, requiring a new bond from the Weigh Clerk. As this matter has been pending nearly a year, no further delay can be allowed.

Nothing has been heard from the bond of the Assistant Coiner since it was returned to you as imperfect January 21, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Hon. C. N. Felton,
House of Representatives,

Sir:-

The Department has received from Mr. Max Pracht, of San Francisco, a communication dated 12th ultimo, accompanied (for inspection) by a five-dollar gold piece of the coinage of 1850, returned

to bearer.

The writer of the letter does not seem to understand the matter of the abrasion of coin. I cannot undertake to supply the rudiments of knowledge on this subject; but if he will refer to my report on the production of precious metals for 1885, he will find a chapter on the "Abrasion of Coin", which will probably supply him with the information of which he appears to be in want.

No coin that has passed out of the hands of a coinage mint is supposed to be of full weight, all coins being subject to wear from use.

Very respectfully,

Jas. P. Kimball,

Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Doctor Casimiro Corral,

E. E. and M. P. of Bolivia,

Sir:-

I have the pleasure of sending you copies of my three last reports. From them you will see the importance that I have given to the statistics of coinage of the precious metals by foreign countries and the production of gold and silver.

In the case of Bolivia, which is believed to be the largest silver-producing country of South America, no information has been received later than for the year 1883. (See fiscal report 1885, p. 177.)

It is very desirable for us to know, first, the coinage of gold and silver in Bolivia for the years 1885 and 1886 if possible, or for previous years. It is equally

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desirable that this Bureau be informed of the production of gold and silver in Bolivia for the calendar years 1885 and 1886.

I desire also to learn what the destination of the silver is that is exported from Bolivia by the "Argentine Route", so-called, whether absorbed in the coinage of the Argentine Republic or other South American countries, or whether shipped to Europe.

Any information in reply to these queries, directly or indirectly, as far as you can supply the information, will be very thankfully received, and your communication printed, over your own signature, in the report of this Bureau, now in preparation.

This matter is of the more importance as the important silver production of Bolivia seems not to have been credited to that country in the literature on the subject, but collectively to South American states.

Respectfully yours,
James P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 23, 1887.

Geo. W. Sebrell,
Sebrell P.O.
Southampton Co. Va.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 16th instant to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau and in reply you are informed that foreign silver coins have a value only as bullion and any bullion broker in Philadelphia or New York would

would purchase the same.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the ordinary, refinery & statistical expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Referring to your statements of domestic production, deposits and purchases of bars manufactured for months of November, December 1886 and January 1887, returned herewith for correction, I would state that the amount of domestic production as reported on form "61", should be entered opposite the item "United States Domestic Production" on form 60 (deposits and purchases).

On form 60, the re-deposits are classified as fine and unparted mint bars, to either class you will enter the proper amount.

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You will please forward statements (Nos 60, 61 + 61½) for the fiscal year, with your corrected statements.

A supply of these forms have been mailed you to-day for this purpose.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 24, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

I have requested that the bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of $100,000.- and that the same be placed to your credit with Denver National and First National Banks of Denver, Colorado.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar letter, with following exceptions to Assayer U. S. Assay Office, Helena, Mon.

+ + + $50,000.- + + + + + + + + + + + + + with the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. at New York.

February 24, 1887.

W. R. Kivett, Esq.
Henderson, N. C.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 22d instant, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, has been referred to this Bureau.

The coinage of gold during 1887, has been exclusively in pieces of the value

of five and ten dollars, and at the mint at San Francisco. Other denominations may be coined and issued by the mint at Philadelphia later in the year.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1887.

Jno. H. Kiebsmeier, Esq.
Care, Lafayette Bank,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

In answer to your postal card of the 19th instant to the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, you are informed that the so-called "fifty-dollar pieces" coined in California about the year 1851 were not issued by (and form no part of the coinage of) the United States.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1887.

Hon. Justin S. Morrill,
U. S. Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

As requested in your telegram of this morning I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement showing the form and distribution of the total circulation of money in the United States on the first of February 1887.

The amount of gold and silver bullion in the mints is taken as of the

first of January. It does not vary materially from that on hand on the first of February.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

In compliance with request contained in your telegram of current date, I send you by to-day's mail one dozen copies of blank contracts.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary refinery & statistical accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

Referring to your ordinary expense accounts

for the month of January your attention is called to the fact that the pay-roll of the general department shows J. F. Powers, "Capt of the Watch" to have been erroneously paid. The compensation fixed by your letter of December 15th last and approved by this Bureau under date of the 22d of same month, was $5.50 per day, while on this roll he is paid at the rate of $5.00.

Please explain whether this is the result of a clerical error, or whether his compensation was inadvertently fixed at $5.50 instead of $5.00 in your letter of appointment.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 24, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Mont. be increased in the sum of $50,000. by a transfer of that amount in lawful money 2d, that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston
Acting Director of the Mint.

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February 24, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of $100,000. by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Denver National and First National Banks at Denver, Colorado.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

February 23, 1887.

Charles W. Buck, Esq.
E. E. and M. P. of the U. S.
Lima, Peru,

Sir:-

In the annual reports of this Bureau is presented a table, compiled mainly from official sources, giving by weight and value the production of gold and silver in the principal countries of the world.

The information received at this Bureau from South American countries, in reply to the annual circular sent out through the department of State, has been meagre, especially in regard to the production of gold and silver.

It is highly important that the Bureau should have accurate statistics on this subject in regard to the countries concerned, in order that the

Recap copies delayed.

total reported production of gold and silver produced in the world, may be as near the actual production as possible.

I shall esteem it a favor, therefore, and it will be a public service not only in the interests of correct statistics, but also of the country to which you are accredited, if you will obtain and transmit to this Bureau, either directly or through the Department of State, in time for publication in my annual fiscal report, definite and correct information relative to the production of gold and silver from the mines of Peru during the calendar year 1886; or, if the statistics for that year are not complete, for the preceding calendar year, or even earlier.

All information will be thankfully received and due credit given you in my report.

I enclose a list of queries — a copy of which you may have previously received through the Department of State. Replies to all of these are very desirable, but I have indicated by a mark those to which an early reply is earnestly requested.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letters similar with the exceptions as noted to
Baylies W. Hanna, Esq.
M. R. and C. G. of the U. S.
Buenos Ayres
Argentine Republic

+ + + from the mines of the
Argentine Republic + + + + + + + + +

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See preceding page

Hon. Thos. J. Jarvis,
E. E. and M. P. of the U. S.
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

+ + + from the mines of Brazil + + + + + + + +

William R. Roberts, Esq.
E. E. and M. P. of the U. S.
Santiago, Chili.

+ + + from the mines of Chili + + + + + + + + +

William A. Seay, Esq.
E. E. and M. P. of the U. S.
La Paz, Bolivia.

+ + + from the mines of Bolivia + + + + + + + +

Charles L. Scott, Esq.
M. D. & C. G. of the U. S.
Caracas, Venezuela.

+ + + from the mines of Venezuela + + + + +

February 25, 1887.

Chief Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to your favor of the 24th instant, the statements to this Bureau by the Collector at New Orleans have been made to conform to abstracts furnished by him, and I send you, herewith, a copy of the corrected table.

The difference in foreign silver coin was occasioned by the fact that the report for the month of March could not be found, and in this way

the discrepancy of $15,000 in foreign silver coin from Mexico was made.

Replying to the portion of your communication in regard to the difference between the "bars" and "bullion" I will state that in nearly all the reports to this Bureau the item of "bullion" was entered by this name on the statements of the collector, which are herewith enclosed, with the request that you will return them to this Bureau. The gold dust was entered as "bullion"; bricks as "bars". The distinctive feature of bars may be said to be "being melted into a mass."

However, as stated to you in the communication of last week, the classification as between bars and other bullion is of no special value to this Bureau. The separation, however, of bars bearing the stamp of a United States mint or assay office from other bars or bullion is of great importance, for the reason that in arriving at the production of gold and silver in the United States it is necessary to eliminate the import of foreign gold and silver bullion and whether it be bars or bullion is of no importance, but if the imports consisted of our own bars, such amount would not be deducted from the reported production of the United States.

The enclosures in your communication of the 24th instant are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Actg Director of the Mint.

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February 25, 1887.

Telegram.

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York,

Your offer declined. Received too late for consideration.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Confirmed.

February 25, 1887.

Telegram.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.
Denver, Col.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one dollar one and sixty five hundredths cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Confirmed.

February 25, 1887.

Telegram.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall Street,
New York,

Your offer declined. Will accept fifty thousand ounces each for Philadelphia and New Orleans at one hundred and one and sixty five hundredths cents per ounce fine.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Confirmed.

February 25, 1887.

Irish Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, your ordinary refinery expense accounts of the Superin-

tendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York for the month ended January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1887.

Telegram.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York,

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred one and sixty five hundredths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar telegrams sent to
Fourth National Bank,
New York,

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay
#19 Wall St.
New York.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the ~~Treasury~~ Department for examination and settlement, your ordinary and refinery expense accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston, Acting Director.

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February 25, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.0165.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

February 25, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Secretary of the Treasury has approved the contract executed by you in triplicate in behalf of the United States with the Remington Engine Works for the construction of two 150 horse power engines and for repairs of old engine including foundations &c., one copy of which will be placed on the files of the department, and herewith you will find copies for file in your mint and for the contractors.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston, Acting Director.

tendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York for the month ended January 31, 1887.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1887.

Telegram.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York,

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and one and sixty five hundredths cents per ounce fine.

Informed.

R. E. Preston,
Acting Director.

Similar telegrams sent to
Fourth National Bank,
New York,

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay
#19 Wall St.
New York.

February 24, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the ~~Treasury~~ Department for examination and settlement, your ordinary and refinery expense accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston, Acting Director.

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February 25, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.0165.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

February 25, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Secretary of the Treasury has approved the contract executed by you in triplicate in behalf of the United States with the Kensington Engine Works for the construction of two 150 horse power engines and for repairs of old engine including foundations &c., one copy of which will be placed on the files of the department, and herewith you will find copies for file in your mint and for the contractors.

Very respectfully, R. E. Preston, Acting Director.

February 25, 1887.

V. B. Beam, Esq.
California, Mo.

Sir:-

From your letter of the 17th February, the identity of the coin referred to cannot be determined by this Bureau.

The coin is described as "made in 1775", with "fifteen stars on it. It doubtless has devices and legends of some description, and these must be stated before your request for information can be complied with.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

February 25, 1887.

P. A. Wilkey, Esq.
Scrap P. O. Jefferson Co.
Alabama,

Sir:-

In answer to yours without date, you are respectfully informed that there is in this Bureau no data from which could be sent you a list of addresses of incorporated companies to whose interest it would be to have you "engage in buying minerals and mineral lands for them" "in the heart of the Warrior River Coal Region of Alabama".

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Acting Director of the Mint.

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February 26, 1887.

The Public Printer,
Washington,

Telegram.

Shall be pleased to receive fifty copies of my letter on assay of coins, referred to House Coinage Committee and ordered printed February twenty-third. See page twenty-two seventeen of Record.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Messrs.
Zimmermann & Forshay,
19 Wall St. New York,

Gentlemen:-

You are informed that all telegrams or letters accepting or declining offers of the department for silver should be addressed to the Director of the Mint and not to the Treasurer of the United States.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Gustavus Farley, Esq.
64 Broth Street,
New York,

Sir:-

In reply to your verbal inquiry as to the redemption of trade dollars, I enclose you an excerpt from the bill as passed by

Congress and now before the President for his signature.

It was evidently supposed by Congress that the trade dollars which had been shipped to the East would have been stamped, according to the Eastern custom and that no considerable amount would be returned for redemption.

Under the bill, however, as it stands and as it will go into effect unless vetoed by the President, trade dollars returned from China and Japan will probably reach the Sub-treasury at San Francisco for redemption.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

The <u>Trade</u> <u>Dollar</u> bill provides:-----

Excerpt.

"That for a period of six months after the passage of this act United States trade-dollars, if not defaced, mutilated or stamped, shall be received at the office of the Treasurer or any assistant treasurer of the United States in exchange for a like amount, dollar for dollar, of standard silver dollars or of subsidiary coins of the United States".

February 26, 1887.

<u>Baltimore Copper,</u>
<u>Smelting & Rolling Co.</u>
<u>Baltimore, Md.</u>

Gentlemen:-

Your account for ten (10) Tons Ingot Copper shipped the U. S. mint at New Orleans, has been transmitted

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to the Superintendent thereof with instructions to forward you a draft for the amount $2160.- on Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. at New York upon receipt of the copper.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Will you do me the kindness to furnish a statement showing at what ports, other than New York and San Francisco, the $2,070,493.- in silver bullion was imported during the calendar year 1886, and also at what ports, other than New York and San Francisco the silver ore was imported and the amount imported at each port, other than New York and San Francisco.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Supt U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Referring to your statements of deposits and purchases (Form 60) for the month of February 1886, you are respectfully informed that the original statement forwarded by you showed the re-deposits of imported silver bars to have been 121,169.52 standard ounces. The statement forwarded by you

for the month of February on the 5th inst. gives the re-deposits of unparted silver bars at 121,167.82, a difference of two ounces.

The statement of bars manufactured (form 61½) for the months of January to June 1886, originally forwarded, showed the weight of the bars manufactured in those six months to have been as follows: Fine gold bars 15,607.893; fine silver bars 8,125.25; sterling bars 1,194.33. The corrected statements for the same months forwarded on the 5th instant show the weight of the bars manufactured to have been, fine gold bars, 15,365.638; fine silver bars 6,812.85; sterling bars 1,194.33.

You will notice that there is a difference between the two sets of statements amounting to 242.255 ounces in fine gold bars and 1,312.40 in fine silver bars.

If the latter statements are correct, it renders erroneous the statements forwarded by you for the fiscal year 1886 and published in my annual report for that year and renders erroneous the totals of the deposits and purchases of gold and silver at the mints and assay offices of the United States and the bars manufactured, as published in my fiscal report. Of course this error in the published reports of this Bureau, while very annoying to me can only reflect on your mint.

There is no reason why the statements of the monthly deposits at your mint and the bars manufactured should not be absolutely correct when originally forwarded. Indeed, it is difficult to conceive how they can be otherwise except by gross carelessness upon the part of the compiler and lack of appreciation

tion of the importance of having the statements of the business of your mint correct. The monthly and annual statements forwarded by your mint, of deposits and purchases for the fiscal year were returned to you for correction and your corrected statements published, and at this late date, it is discovered that after revision they were returned erroneous.

I beg to impress upon you the importance of having the statements from your mint prepared with greater care and with some conception of the fact that they are recorded and consolidated with the other mints in the official books of this Bureau and published in the annual reports.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 371, dated Feby 23, 1887, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, shipment No. 17, dated Feby 17, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $39,609.25, charges $99.85 and net value $39,509.40.

For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball
Director.

Similar letter to preceding addressed to

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

exceptions —

Deposit Memorandum No. 357 + + + Feby 21, 1887, + + + Shipments Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12, dated Feby 12, 1887, + + + + + + $31,092.56 + + + $75.07 + + + $31,017.49 + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have received a number of communications from yourself and the Coiner relating to Mrs. De la Houssaye and one or two from her.

I do not feel that I am called upon to take any action in this matter. I have simply to remark that if vexation and high words were considered a punishable offence at the mint at New Orleans, I am disposed to think many cases would come up for discipline.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I transmit herewith the account of the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Company, receipted in duplicate for ten (10) tons Ingot Copper shipped your mint on the 17th instant.

Upon receipt of the copper you will

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transmit the company a draft on Assistant Treasurer at New York for the amount $2160.

To enable you to make this payment, an advance of $2160. will be made you from the appropriation for the coinage of silver dollars and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Herewith enclosed please find voucher #154, of your ordinary expense account for the month of January - bill of J. L. Lyons & Co. for nitric acid. It will be observed that the quantity purchased is entirely obliterated by the store-keeper's stamp, thus rendering the bill impossible of verification. If the duplicate of the bill is not similarly defaced, you can cause it to be substituted.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have requested that the bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of $1,000,000. and that the

same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery, at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Boston & Colorado
Smelting Company — 45,000 ounces at $1.0165.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar except as to parties and amounts to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Handy & Harman — 50,000 ounces at $1.0165.
Zimmermann & Forshay — 20,000 ounces at 1.0165.

February 26, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I transmit herewith the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury for you to advertise in the "Record" and "Times", inviting

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proposals for shafting pulleys, belts, gearing &c. as requested in your letter of the 25th instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Hon. E. H. Stone,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

Replying to your communication of yesterday, I send you by mail to-day a bound copy of my report for the fiscal year 1886, on pages 112, 113 and 167 of which you will find some tables which may furnish the information desired.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. mint at New Orleans be increased in the sum of $1,000,000. by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution, with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay office at Helena, Mont. to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $30,597.50 in gold coin and $419.99 in silver coin, making a total of $31,017.49, being the net value of bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay office at Helena, as shown by memorandum No. 357, dated February 21, 1887, of gold bullion deposited at said Mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Letter, similar with exceptions as noted to
Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury.

+ + + Mint at Denver, Colorado, + + + + + + + + $39,112. + + + + + + $397.40 + + + + + + + + + + $39,509.40 + + + + + + Mint at Denver + + + + + 371 + + + + Feby 23, 1887, + + + + + +

February 28, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the bullion account of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise City, Idaho, for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of

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adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter to same address,
similar with following exception,
+ + + U. S. Mint at Denver, Colorado, + + + + +
for the quarter ended December 31, 1887. + + + + +

February 28, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your bullion accounts for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1886, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 28, 1887.

Mrs. Mary Burke,
Crested Butte,
Gunnison Co., Colorado,

Madam:-

Your letter dated February 13th, inclosing for redemption, fragments of a mutilated note, paper currency, has been received and referred to the office of the Treasurer of the United States for examination of contents and reply to you.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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February 28, 1887.

Samuel A. Boyle, Esq.
Harrisburg, Penn.

Sir:-

Yours of the 23rd February is received.

As to the numismatic value of half-dollars of the coinage of 1832, about all the information that can be found in this Bureau, is that, according to one writer, they have sometimes brought from 75 cents to $1.00 apiece at coin sales, & according to another, that in an "uncirculated" (i.e. perfect) condition they have been sold for $4.75 each.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

K. C. Holt, Esq.
River Falls, Wis.

Sir:-

I have to reply to your inquiry of the 24th instant that, while they are no longer sent to applicants who desire to mutilate them for use as personal ornaments, a very limited number of one-dollar gold pieces can be obtained from the Superintendent of the mint at Philadelphia for purposes for which gold coin can properly be employed.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Referring to your ordinary expense account for the month of January, your attention is called to the fact that voucher #19, "petty roll" amounting to $20.- was not enclosed therewith. Please forward it at as early a day as practicable.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 28, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Your bullion accounts for the quarter ended September 30, 1886 have been examined and approved, and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for adjustment. I notice that there is a deficiency in your transportation accounts of $32.27 which is perpetuated in your accounts for the quarter ended December 31, 1886. This is contrary to the instructions of this Bureau and should not have occurred. There is no good reason why you should not have collected a sufficient amount from depositors to cover the cost of transporting the bullion to the mint for coinage.

As I have previously explained to you, it is contrary to the regulations and embarrassing to the Bureau to have deficiencies in the bullion and coin accounts in any of the mints or

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assay officer, as such deficiencies are in reality a shortage in the amount of public money with which the officer is charged.

Your attention is also directed to the fact that in your silver bullion account you have a balance of silver on hand of $0.99, and in your accounts for the quarter ended December 31, you have a balance on hand of the value of one cent. This latter is practically impossible, and a balance of such a small amount would indicate that the amount was entered simply to balance your accounts. If your accounts are correctly kept, there is no reason why the balance of bullion in your accounts should not always correspond exactly with the amount which you actually have. The bullion accounts should be closed out at the end of each quarter by shipping all the bullion in your possession to the mint for coinage, so that the only funds which you would have would be the amount represented by your coin account.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

Referring to your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, your attention is respectfully directed to the following discrepancies:

Gold mint receipt, 204, is herewith returned for your signature.

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Gold Deposit, 184, the fineness of the gold is entered on the abstract sheet as .582½ instead of .528½. The calculations of standard weight and value, however, have been made at the fineness of .528½.

Deposit 241, the standard weight of the silver should be .170 of an ounce, not .176 as entered on the abstract sheets.

In the footing of the column of the standard weight of the silver for the month of November, the correct footing of the first figure is a "6" and not a "4" as you have it entered. This error is carried forward in the totals.

I return herewith your abstract sheet and accounts for the quarter named and also mint receipt 204, all of which you will please correct and return at your earliest convenience.

The bullion accounts should be rendered in ounces as well as in value.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at St. Louis, Mo. be increased in the sum of $25,000.- by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at St. Louis.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

assay offices, as such deficiencies are in reality a shortage in the amount of public money with which the officer is charged.

Your attention is also directed to the fact that in your silver bullion account you have a balance of silver on hand of $0.99, and in your accounts for the quarter ended December 31, you have a balance on hand of the value of one cent. This latter is practically impossible, and a balance of such a small amount would indicate that the amount was entered simply to balance your accounts. If your accounts are correctly kept, there is no reason why the balance of bullion in your accounts should not always correspond exactly with the amount which you actually have. The bullion accounts should be closed out at the end of each quarter by shipping all the bullion in your possession to the mint for coinage, so that the only funds which you would have would be the amount represented by your coin account.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

Referring to your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, your attention is respectfully directed to the following discrepancies:

Gold mint receipt, 204, is herewith returned for your signature.

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Gold Deposit, 184, the fineness of the gold is entered on the abstract sheet as .582½ instead of .528½. The calculations of standard weight and value, however, have been made at the fineness of .528½.

Deposit 241, the standard weight of the silver should be .70 of an ounce, not .76 as entered on the abstract sheets.

In the footing of the column of the standard weight of the silver for the month of November, the correct footing of the first figure is a "6" and not a "4" as you have it entered. This error is carried forward in the totals.

I return herewith your abstract sheet and accounts for the quarter named and also mint receipt 204, all of which you will please correct and return at your earliest convenience.

The bullion accounts should be rendered in ounces as well as in value.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at St. Louis, Mo. be increased in the sum of $25,000.- by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at St. Louis.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed find Treasurer's draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York #267,983 for the sum of $93.-, being the value of the coins forwarded by you to this Bureau during the six months ended December 31, 1886, for assay as prescribed by the Regulations.

You will please acknowledge the receipt of the draft and inform me whether the amount agrees with that charged on your books against this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letters similar, with exceptions as noted, to

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans #4694 for the sum of $75.- + + + + + + + + + +

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + Assistant Treasurer at San Francisco, #5337, for the sum of $485.- + + + + + + +

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

The number of silver dollars to be coined by your mint during the month of March is hereby fixed at one mil.-

lion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Sir:-

I have this day approved & referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for settlement, three bills of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia for the manufacture of 30 pairs of standard dollar dies, for the use of your mint, amounting to $767.40 & payable from the appropriation for the coinage of standard silver dollars, Act February 28, 1878.

Please find duplicate bills herewith.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The minimum number of silver dollars to be coined by your mint during the month of March is hereby fixed at one million eight hundred thousand.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Assayer of the Bureau acknowledges the receipt of $664.04, the value of the gold & silver bars sent to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, on the 19th instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

C/S. No. 6762 for $15.75, being on account of old material enclosed in your communication of the 25th inst., has been received, properly endorsed and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, no personal credit to be given you in your accounts & the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 28, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your bills of the 13th & 31st of December & January 21st last, for 30 pairs of standard dollar dies, forwarded to the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, have been approved

and referred to the proper accounting officers of the departments for examination and settlement, the amount found due to be carried to the credit of the appropriations of your mint for the fiscal year 1887, as follows:

Wages of Workmen ——— $736.80
Contingent Expenses 30.60

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

February 28, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

I have requested that the bullion fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of $25,000. and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at St. Louis.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 1, 1887.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall Street,
New York.

Telegram.

Your offer declined. Will accept one hundred thousand for New Orleans and fifty thousand for Philadelphia at one hundred one, and six tenths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 1, 1887.

Fourth National Bank,
New York,

Telegram.

Superintendent Mint Philadelphia notified to receive from you thirty thousand ounces at one hundred one and six tenths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 1, 1887.

Jas. B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall Street,
New York,

Telegram.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred one and six tenths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to
Fourth National Bank
New York.

Handy & Harman
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall Street,
New York.

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March 1, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at St. Louis, for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 1886, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter to same address,
similar with exceptions as noted,

+ + + ordinary expense accounts + + + + +
Helena, for the month ended January 31, 1887,
+ + + + + + + + +

March 1, 1887.

Hon. W. B. Allison,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations,
U. S. Senate,

Sir:-

Anticipating the consideration of the Legislative Bill by your Committee and without waiting to ascertain the complete action of the House, I beg to enclose Ex. Doc. No. 174, which states the matter of the appropriations for the mint service as reported by the House Committee on Appropriations.

As to the mint at Carson this Bureau and I think the Department as well, would be glad to be relieved of the responsibility of the probable contingency of closing this

institution even as an assay office, as now conducted, for want of business, the department not considering it expedient to carry on coinage at this mint under the disadvantage of not being able to procure bullion without transporting it thither.

My explanations in the case of the mint at Denver, Assay office at Boise City, Assay office at Helena, Assay office at New York, Assay office at St. Louis and the Bureau of the mint, cover the straits in which the mint service would be left without amendment of the Legislative Bill as reported by the House.

I will endeavor to ask your attention to the condition of the bill as left by the House should any alteration be made.

In addition to the enclosed communication and the regular estimate for the mint and assay offices, I beg to refer you to "Appendix E.", Book of Estimates, page 256, for an explanation of the estimates originally made in regard especially to the increase of salaries of the Examiner and Computer of this Bureau, being $200 in the case of the Examiner and $300 in the case of the Computer of Bullion.

I beg leave to say, in extension to what is there said, that the increase asked for is considered only a proper adjustment of their salaries with reference to other salaries in the Treasury Department, and the fact that they have been in this Bureau ever since its organization, and that as experts in their line of duty they could not be replaced. Nor could the Bureau undertake to continue its present character of work

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without the experience personal to these two officers. Both are men of large families.

The small appropriations hitherto allowed to this Bureau, together with the effect of Civil Service rules, deprive it of means for retaining the services of minor clerks who might otherwise become trained for the same class of work now performed by these two officers.

For point of order & debate on this subject see Congressional Record of this morning, pag 2599.

Permit me, in conclusion, to ask your attention to the extent of the economy practiced in the mint service during the last fiscal year, amounting, as it did, to over 18 per cent. as compared with the expenditures of the previous year. This point, I think, justifies me in urging full consideration of the few increases asked for. See first two paragraphs of letter, Appendix E.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1889.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Referring to your ordinary expense account for January I have to request that an explanation of voucher #59, covering the purchase of a steel stamp, "United States of America."

The necessity for a stamp of this character is not understood by this Bureau.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

March 1, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department, for examination and settlement, your ordinary expense account for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 1, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

Your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, have been referred to the Gold Auditor for examination and settlement.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1887.

Judge William Butler,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have caused to be sent you by registered mail to-day, for your signature, the Record of the Assay Commission of 1887.

Please sign at the place indicated and return the Record, properly wrapped, to this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

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March 1, 1887.

Hon. J. S. Morrill,
Chairman, Committee on Finance,
U. S. Senate,

Sir:-

May I beg to call your attention, informally, to the nomination of Dr. David A. Tuttle as Melter and Refiner of the mint at Carson. His nomination does not seem to have been confirmed. He is a very worthy and skilful officer, and his confirmation ought not, it seems to me, to be delayed through any consideration of the fact that for the next fiscal year the appropriation for this mint seems likely to be withheld.

As there can be no objection against this officer on any account, I beg to urge upon your Committee a report in favor of his confirmation.

Respectfully yours,
James P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Secretary of the Treasury has approved in quadruplicate the contract made by you on behalf of the United States with the Edgemoor Iron Company for the construction &c. of three internally fired Cylindrical Steel Boilers. One copy of the same will be placed on the files of the department and enclosed you will find copies for the use of the contractors, engineers and for the files of

your mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 28th ultimo, requesting to be furnished with 4 "Registers of Gold and Silver Deposits" for the use of your mint during the next quarter, your attention is called to Department Circular, No. 3. "S. P. & B." recently sent you, by which it will be seen that these books cannot be supplied from here before the expiration of the next quarter. In consideration of this fact and in order that your records may be properly kept, you are hereby authorized to have one book, to last you during next quarter, manufactured in your city. In the meantime I will cause requisition to be made upon the Public Bindery for 4 additional registers, but before this can be done, it will be necessary for you to send sample leaves of each form of the book, with the number of pages of each required, together with the description as to binding, tagging and labelling written plainly thereon.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

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March 1, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 50,000 ounces at $1.016
J. & W. Seligman & Co. — 75,000 ounces at 1.016
Fourth National Bank — 30,000 ounces at 1.016
Jas. B. Colgate & Co. — 50,000 ounces at 1.016

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar with exceptions as noted to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 100,000 ounces at $1.016.

March 1, 1887.

Telegram.

Superintendent, Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Reduce purchasing rate of silver to one dollar per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram sent to
Superintendent, Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

March 2, 1887.

Telegram. Assayer Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Pay for silver contained in gold deposits at the rate of ninety cents per ounce standard.

Conformed. Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 2, 1887.

Telegram. Assayer Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Pay for silver contained in gold deposits on 3d after third instant at the rate of ninety cents per ounce standard.

Conformed. Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte N. C.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

You will pay for silver contained in gold deposits on 3d after the third instant at the rate of ninety (90) cents per ounce standard. Very respectfully,

Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

Letter similar to preceding addressed to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

March 2, 1887.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.
Denver, Col.

Gentlemen:-

Until further notice you will send your offers to sell silver bullion direct to this Bureau and not to the Treasurer of the United States.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters addressed to

Messrs. Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall St.
New York.

Messrs. James B. Colgate & Co.
47 Wall St.
New York.

Messrs. Handy & Harman
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

O. D. Baldwin,
Presdt. Fourth National Bank,
New York.

Messrs. J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York

Messrs. Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall St.
New York.

March 2, 1887.

Geo. E. Hall,
Southern Hotel,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

Replying to your favor of the 28th ultimo relative to the report on the "Production of Gold and Silver in the United States" for the calendar year 1886, I presume the report will be ready for distribution in the course of a few months, and as soon as it is ready a copy will be sent you.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Robert J. Taylor & Son,
Cor. 19th & Callowhill Sts.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:-

If my letter of the 28th ultimo in regard to an unpaid account against the United States Assay Office at Helena, Montana, for crucibles shipped by you March 1886, has been received.

If you will forward a duplicate account for the same, accompanied by bills of lading or the receipt of the quarter-master for the delivery of the crucibles, such steps will be taken as to secure the payment of the account at an early date.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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March 2, 1887.

M. Williams Taylor, Esq.
McGill College,
Montreal, Canada,

Sir:-

Replying to your communication of the 28th ultimo, I take pleasure in sending you by mail to-day an extra bound copy of my report on the "Production of the Precious Metals in the United States" for the calendar year 1885.

I also send you, to complete your set, sheep bound copies of the reports of the Director of the Mint on the "Production of the Precious Metals in the United States" for the years 1883 and 1884. Thinking that you may find them useful I also send bound copies of the Annual Report of this Bureau for the years 1880-1886 inclusive.

The name of your college will be placed on the permanent list of this Bureau of persons and institutions to whom the publications of the Bureau are sent regularly.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, T. T.

Sir:-

I return herewith sample envelope enclosed with your letter of the 24th ultimo.

All stationery supplies must be obtained on the regular requisition for the purpose, which should be made semi-annually as directed in department circular #151, series 1876.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

March 2, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, I.T.

Sir:-

Enclosed herein please find vouchers #39 & 40, of your ordinary account for January and petty vouchers #2 & 3, pertaining to same account. In making up these vouchers too little attention has been paid to details. Voucher #39 does not state the quantity or price of any of the articles enumerated and voucher #40 does not give the commencement or termination of the subscription. Petty voucher #2 should state the character of the printing done and #3, should give the number of towels washed and rate per dozen paid.

When supplies are purchased from a business house in your city you should require the bills to be rendered upon the firm's bill head, instead of having them made up by your clerk upon your office form.

As your account stands suspended pending the return of these bills you will please complete and return them without delay.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

Sir:-

As the bill providing for the redemption of the trade dollar will probably be signed by the President and owing to the lack of facilities at the sub-treasuries at New York

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and Philadelphia to store these coins, if becomes necessary that they should be melted, as early as practicable, into bars, and such as are redeemed at the Sub-treasury at New York will be transferred to you from time to time for that purpose. The coins, when transferred, should be run into bars of about 1200 ounces, that being the maximum of weight of bars which are now received by the Philadelphia Mint.

I will thank you to inform me as to your capacity for storage of the bars. These bars should be stamped "trade dollar bars."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I return the McCaul bid to specifications for a new bid to specifications reduced to the required condition, as we have no warrant for taking it for granted that the bidder will make the same bid for a part of the work as he has made for the whole. The proposal should be cut down so as to include only the work actually to be done.

As an alternative from such a course, a letter should be written by Mr. McCaul specifically confirming the terms for the work to be done & accepting the condition that his bid will not apply to all the heads as printed in the "form of proposal".

to work should be undertaken, the cost of which will exceed the appropriation.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Handy & Harman — 100,000 ounces at $1.016
Zimmermann & Horshay — 25,000 ounces at 1.016

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The ledgers requested in your letter of yesterday call for 400 and 300 pages respectively. Is this not an error? A 300 page book is but little, if any, more than an inch in thickness. I am, in consequence, in doubt, whether you do not mean leaves or openings instead. I will also thank you to explain whether the labels are intended for the sides or

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backs of the books.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant in regard to an item of $102.32 for dies furnished the New Orleans mint, you are informed that this account has been settled at the department and the amount carried on the books of the department to the credit of the following appropriations for the support of your mint for the current fiscal year as follows, namely: for the wages of workmen $98.24; for contingent expenses $4.08.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

Acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo in regard to the compensation of J. F. Powers, recently appointed Captain of the Watch of your mint, I have to say that the reduced rate is approved as recommended from January 1st and the official register of this Bureau will be changed to conform herewith.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

March 3, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Referring to your bullion account for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, your attention is directed to the fact that no parting or refining charge is imposed, with four exceptions, on any of the small purchases of silver enumerated on the abstract sheets.

Also to the following errors in bills of the express company for shipping silver dollars.

October bill, page 10, shipment to Tyler, Texas, distance paid for 577 miles, should be 432; amount paid $4.62, should be $3.45.

October bill, page 26, shipment to Ackerman, Miss., distance paid for 362 miles, should be 262; amount paid $0.72, should be $0.52.

There are numerous errors in the spelling of places and in the state in which located in these bills, and there are a number of cases in which the payments to the express companies are less than the proper amount. The express bills should be examined with greater care at your mint before payment, and as all the distances are certified to, there is no reason why they should not be exactly correct when forwarded.

I call special attention to the matter for the reason that if-

See next page.

is desirable to keep the account with the silver profit fund as free from disallowances and suspensions by the accounting officers as possible in order that the Bureau may know, at all times, the exact amount of silver profits on hand and which are to be covered into the Treasury.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the ordinary expense accounts of the Assayers in charge of the U. S. Assay offices at St. Louis & Charlotte for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary expense account, with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 3, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary expense account for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letter addressed to

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

March 3, 1887.

Hon. J. R. Hanley,
U. S. Senate,

Sir:-

May I beg to solicit your attention, as a member of the Committee on Printing, to the House concurrent resolution passed last evening for the printing of the Report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for the year 1886. It is very desirable that it should pass the Senate in order to print the report this year, as such reports have little value if delayed.

I assume the resolution as passed provides for the usual number of copies, namely, six thousand (6,000) for Congress & three thousand (3,000) for distribution by the Director of the Mint.

Respectfully yours,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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March 3, 1887.

Messrs. James B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall Street,
New York.

Gentlemen:-

From and after this date, sellers of silver will be required to complete delivery within ten days from date of the acceptance of their offer unless otherwise agreed upon.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters addressed to

O. D. Baldwin,
Pres'd't-Fourth Nat'l Bank,
New York.

Messrs. Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau Street,
New York.

Messrs. J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York.

Messrs. Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall Street,
New York.

March 3, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The Weigh Clerk has explained to me the errors to which your attention was called in my letter of February 26. It appears that they were committed by the Assistant Weigh Clerk, Chester, who is no longer in the same capacity.

It is evident to me, however, that such statements should not be left to either the Weigh Clerk or to his assistant, but that

they should be made up by the book-keeper, or at least in the Superintendent's office, not from the working books but from the regular books of the mint; especially under the circumstance that the Weigh Clerk ought not to be required to perform clerical labor to which final responsibility is attached as between that department of the mint and the Bureau of the Mint. Responsible clerks, where such statements are concerned, are properly those of the Superintendent's office, as in the case of all the other mints and the assay office at New York.

I think these are sufficient reasons why the Weigh Clerk should not be held ultimately responsible for the errors referred to. As between the Superintendent and the work of the Weigh Clerk and his assistant, the accountability of the latter is for yourself to arrange; but the agreement with the books of the mint is the main thing to be secured, and this at the hands of the Book-keeper and his assistants.

Under these circumstances, and from the fact that the errors were purely clerical, I think it would be an injustice to require the resignation of the Weigh Clerk, whose practical duties are sufficiently engrossing, and for the reasons above given.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco,

March 3, 1887.

Sir:-

Mr. Lothrop L. Bullock has called upon

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me and, in my absence, stated to my secretary his knowledge of the case referred to you by my endorsement of November 8, 1886. He also left for my personal a letter of the 27th November, 1886, to him, from James T. Ish, professing dissatisfaction with your examination of the charges against Hirshberg, and reiterating his general charges against the private character of this officer of the mint.

It does not appear to me that you are justified in dismissing the case on the grounds of certain moral sentiments on the part of Ish, even if for no other reason than that such transactions are unlikely to come to the knowledge of a man of the very highest type. Nor do I consider that you are warranted in assuming that his statement implied that he allowed the use of his office for the purpose of listening to what was going on, the inference being just as fair that he expected to have reported to him what went on.

The charges were referred to you for investigation as a matter of fairness to yourself, on the assumption that confidential relations between you and your chief clerk would not weigh against a thorough investigation. I do not consider that any other official of the Treasury Department could be properly called upon to make the investigation; but I do think that you are bound, on official as well as personal grounds, to exhaust the inquiry.

My judgment, in a general way, is that the chief clerk should be above reproach, and even above gossip; and I cannot refrain from believing that something must be wrong where

such charges are entertained by respectable men such as I am told Mr. Bullock is.

As to Mr. Osh, I cannot learn that he is actuated by personal motives, or that he is not a credible witness.

I think the adjusters should be given to understand that the discovery of any relations between them and an intermediary officer of the mint tending to guarantee their places on any condition whatever, should be considered sufficient cause for summary removal; and that every person employed should be given to understand that his or her tenure depends upon principles fixed by the regulations of the mint service, and by considerations personal to yourself ---- the only officer responsible to this department.

This matter seems to me the more pressing from the present situation, namely that in your absence the Chief Clerk is actually in full charge of the mint, as your substitute.

Not feeling as confident as you seem to be yourself as to these charges being absolutely without grounds, I am not without grave doubts as to the propriety of continuing the services of a clerk about whom damaging reports are entertained by as many persons as have been mentioned in this case, to say nothing of the greater number who are alleged to have knowledge detrimental to his character.

It does not appear that Mr. Bullock is an essential witness, as his knowledge of the case is simply what has been related to him by Osh. I do not consider, therefore, that the

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case should be delayed or in any way affected by considering him in the matter at all.

I do not think that any examination of the adjusters can be received as of weight, unless they have been previously given an explicit promise, from you, of immunity from the consequences of what is alleged to have been transactions with Hirshberg.

Embarrassing as it might be to have to make such promises, it seems to me to be through them alone that the charges can be substantiated or disproved. For my part, I shall not feel satisfied until you have investigated the matter by doing something of this sort.

Your communications are returned, with reference to what has been said above.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Telegram.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Company,
Denver, Colo.

Confirmed.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and seven tenths cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram to
Clark, Dodge & Co.
57 Wall Street,
New York.

March 4, 1887.

Fourth National Bank,
New York,

Telegram.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and seven tenths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegram sent to
Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau Street,
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall Street,
New York.

March 4, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the ordinary and refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, Nev. for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination

and settlement, the ordinary & standard silver dollar expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, La. for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Messrs. E. J. Brooks & Co.
51 Dey Street,
New York.

Gentlemen:-

I shall be glad to have from you proposals for furnishing stamps and (per thousand) lead seals, such as are now used by the Adams Express Company, with seals for each stamp, for use by the superintendents of the mints at Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans.

We should be glad to have the mechanism prepared by yourselves and the dies cut by the mint at Philadelphia, with such designs as may be selected.

Please give me your estimate for this work at your early convenience and oblige----

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary and refinery expense accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval except the pay-roll of officers and clerks in which the pay of the chief clerk is entered at $193.80 instead of $193.70. The excess of 10¢ is recommended to be disallowed.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 4, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 28th ultimo, enclosing statements of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured during the month of February 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Please inform this Bureau when you have received ten (10) pair silver dollar

dies forwarded you from the Philadelphia mint on the 3rd instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary & standard silver dollar ex. accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 4. 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 75,000 ounces at $1.007.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

The Solicitor of the Treasury before certifying the bond of L. M. Pipkin, recently appointed Assistant Coiner of your mint, desires to be informed whether the Anna Pipkin, named as one of the sureties, is a single woman or, if married, whether she is in possession of a separate estate. I will thank you to ascertain and furnish this office with the above information at an early day.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary and refinery expense accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I will thank you to state by wire the number of trade dollars you can

receive from the Assistant Treasurer and convert into bars daily.

It is desirable to transfer to you from day to day only such amount as you will be able to make into bars.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Referring to your communication of the 2d instant, in case of rejected bids there can be no question about returning checks immediately, and it would be a hardship to retain them, as the checks are entered up in the bank accounts of the bidders.

In the case of accepted bids, I will inform you further to-morrow, after I shall have informed myself as to the practice of the department.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

In the new regulations (page 18) you will observe the provision made for a special seal, to be issued to each mint by the Director of the Mint, for sealing parcels

containing coin for the Jury of each mint. It is proposed to have these seals prepared by the engraver of your mint, and that each seal shall be distinctly lettered with the name of the mint, and with the words "Annual Trial of Coins", with such devices as may be selected.

I would therefore like to have a design made by your engraver for your mint and submitted to me as early as practicable, with a view of having all conform to the same, differing simply in the lettering in the case of each mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 19th ultimo in explanation of the final payment to C. T. Sauer on the pay roll for December has been received, and I beg to say that I am still of the opinion that the entry of his time was incorrectly made, as the four days lost time charged against him might have occurred previous to the date of his removal.

The month of December had 27 working days (including one legal holiday). This number 27, then, represents the maximum days for which an employé could have been entitled to compensation for services rendered during that month, provided the person employed did not

cease to be an employé of the mint until after the close of the month. If during the month he did cease to be an employé (as in the case now referred to), it is obvious that the maximum days for him individually must be some number less than the total working days (27).

This hoister was removed December 27th. After his removal there remained four working days. Hence the proper number of days to have been credited to him in the column of "No. of Days" was 23.

True, the net result can be made to conform by making a deduction for "4 days absent"; but in this particular instance there was no real "absence", for no further attendance on his part was expected, or could have been required.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

R. M. McSherry, Esq.
45 Lexington Street,
Baltimore, Md.

Sir:-

I have received & referred to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, your inquiry of the 2d instant in regard to certain medals.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 4, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

I send you by mail to-day ten copies of the instructions & regulations in regard to the transaction of business at the mints & assay offices.

These regulations are to go into effect on & after April 1st of the present year.

As there are numerous changes, & in some important points, from the last regulations, you will please see that the officers connected with your institution, as well as the clerks whose business may be affected by the changes, make themselves familiar with the new regulations.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office
Boise City, Ida.

Supt. U. S. Mint
Carson, Nev.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

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March 4, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I send you by mail to-day fifty copies of the instructions and regulations in regard to the transaction of business at the mints and assay offices.

These regulations are to go into effect on and after April 1st of the present year.

As there are numerous changes, and in some important points, from the last regulations, you will please see that the officers connected with your institution, as well as the clerks whose business may be affected by the changes, make themselves familiar with the new regulations.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

March 5, 1887.

R. J. Schaffer Thompson, Esq.
McClintock Block,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:-

In answer to yours of the 28th ultimo, I suggest that you write for informa-

tion about American half-dollars coined between the years 1811 and 1827 to Lyman A. Dow, 853 Broadway, or Scott & Company, 721 Broadway, New York City.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $8,000 to meet the expenses of the refinery in connection with your institution during the present month, payable from the Appropriation for "parting and refining bullion."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar, except as to amount, to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.
$5,000.

March 5, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Your corrected statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31, as well as the original returned, have been received at this Bureau, and the corrected statement has been found to agree with your accounts.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

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March 5, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum, No. 422, dated March 2, 1887, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the U. S. mint at Philadelphia, shipment No. 4, dated Feby 25, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $6083.79, charges $15.23 and net value $6068.56. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the U. S. mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 5, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of March 1887, has been approved for the sum of $2500. payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1887	$900.
Wages of Workmen	1887	1200.
Contingent Expenses	1887	400.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Letters, similar except as to amounts to
(See next page)

See page 461

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

$6,200.

Salaries	$3400.
Wages of Workmen	2000.
Contingent Expenses	800.
	6,200.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

$23,000.

Salaries	$4,000.
Wages of Workmen	14,000.
Contingent Expenses	5,000.
	$23,000.

March 5, 1887.

Sir:-

I will thank you to forward, as soon as it can be compiled, a statement showing the value, country of coinage and denomination of the gold and silver coin deposited at your mint during the calendar year 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 5, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $1900. from the following appropriations to meet the probable expenses of your office during the current

month:-

Salaries	1887	$600.-
Wages of Workmen	1887	900.-
Contingent Expenses	1887	400.-

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your Mint of the following parties, at the rates & for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive & pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Boston & Colorado
Smelting Company - 40,000 ounces at $1.007.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram.

McCaul contract will be approved.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your inquiry of the 4th instant is received. No orders have been issued from this department looking to the redemption of trade dollars at Philadelphia, the only provision thus far having been made for this work at New York.

Before any steps are to be taken by you in the matter of trade dollars you will be advised.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

In further reply to your letter of the 2d instant, you are informed that the check of the successful bidder should be held until his contract and bond have been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury after which it should be returned to him.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the sum of $430,000.

to be deposited in the Treasury in your name on account of profits on coinage of silver dollars and that your bullion fund be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The following coins reserved at the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia during the month of February and forwarded to this Bureau for special assay have been received, viz:

12	S. S. Dollars	$12.
10	Dimes	1.
	Total Value	$13.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Ct. No. 6765 for $5.12 being on account of old material sold, enclosed in your communication of the 28th ult., has been received, properly endorsed and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, no personal credit to be given you in your accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Very respectfully, Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon special assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your mint during the month of January 1887 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters sent to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 5, 1887.

Solon H. Paul, Esq.
107 Madison St.
Chicago, Ill.

Sir:-

Replying to your communication of the 25th ultimo, I take pleasure in sending you to-day a copy of my report on the "Production of Gold and Silver in the United States" for the calendar year 1885, and also of my fiscal report for 1886.

The report on the Production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year 1886, has not yet gone to press, but will in the course of a month or so. As soon as copies

are received, I will forward you a copy.

I think you will find many valuable statistical tables in the appendix of the reports I send.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Acknowledging the receipt of your communication of the 2d instant furnishing a statement by ports other than New York & San Francisco of the imports of silver bullion during the calendar year 1886, and also of silver ore, would you do me the kindness, if the information can be furnished from the reports to your Bureau, to inform me what portion of the bullion and ore contained in the statement was imported through the custom house at Nogales & what portion through Eagle Pass.

I am trying to trace the silver which came into the United States from Mexico during the last calendar year, and if you can furnish this information, it will assist me materially in my purpose.

In this connection, permit me to request the return to this Bureau of the statements for the calendar year from the collector at El Paso which I forwarded to you for your information, as corrected statements have been received from him for the months of October and November, &

I wish to revise the annual statement accordingly before my report goes to press.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Referring to your bullion accounts for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, your attention is respectfully directed to the charges imposed on deposits of silver bullion for unparted bars.

I find that on the deposit made November 9th by E. R. Clark, of the value of $102.68 you have imposed a charge of $16.56.

Your abstract sheets show that these deposits were paid in unparted bars, that is, the identical bullion deposited was returned to the depositor after melting. I will thank you to explain under what schedule the charges on these deposits were made. I had supposed that when deposits for unparted bars were received at your institution the only charge which would be imposed would be the charge which would be imposed at the assay office of one-eighth of one per cent of the value, unless extra materials or extra melts should be required, when an extra charge to cover the cost of these would be imposed. On these deposits you have imposed a charge of one-half of one per cent on the gross ounces, and an additional charge for refining. Now is it that a refining charge

$111.96, you have imposed a charge of $12.28; and on the deposit by the same individual, November 17th, of the value of

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was imposed on these deposits returned in unparted bars?

If the rate of charges imposed on these two deposits were followed out in regard to all deposits for unparted bars, it is not surprising that your institution did not receive many deposits of this class. It would necessarily be ruinous to a depositor to have to pay $16.56 for melting a deposit of the value of only $102.68.

I will also thank you to explain why no refining charge was imposed on the purchases of silver bullion numbers 8 and 15. They were marked on the assayer's report as "bars", but unless they were United States bars, or unless the base was exclusively copper, they were subject to a refining charge.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

Referring to the communication from this office under date of the 3rd ultimo and your reply of the 9th ultimo, it is a matter of surprise that you can conceive that the rate to be paid for silver partings was the rate on the day the deposit was paid.

It has been uniformly understood in the mint service, and I have never known any question to be raised

about it before, that the price fixed for silver contained in gold deposits was the price authorized by the Bureau on the day the deposit was made. Necessarily this would be the case, and has been so uniformly at your institution so far as your abstract sheets show.

It would be, of course, impracticable, in case a depositor did not call for his deposit for some weeks or months after the deposit was made to re-calculate the deposit at the price of silver on the day he demanded payment.

The deposit is always a purchase by the government of the day when it is made and at the rate authorized for that day regardless of the date of payment. Moreover, all of the deposits made on the fourth day of November were paid at the rate of $0.86, except the one made by the Empire Mining Co. which deposit by the way, contained more silver several times over than all of the others. The amount overpaid on this deposit, $6.85, being the difference between the value of the silver contained, calculated at $0.86 per standard ounce, the rate authorized and $0.89 the rate paid, will be disallowed and you will charge your coin account and credit profit and loss in your accounts for the current quarter, with this sum, as overpayment on deposit 1097.

The amount overpaid on the deposits of November 10th, when the rate of $0.90 was paid instead of $0.89 as authorized, was $0.25, with which amount you will also charge yourself, making in all $7.10 as the amount

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with which you are to be charged.

I return herewith your abstract sheets for correct footings. You will notice that there is an error in the footing of each of the months of the quarter. This is an evidence of great carelessness, and should not occur again. The footings of the abstract sheets which are carried in the accounts should be carefully checked before the accounts are forwarded, as it creates great confusion and trouble in the settlement of your accounts to have errors of any kind occur, in either the weight or value of the deposits of the quarter.

I return also your bullion and coin accounts for the same quarter.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia the sum of $430,000.- on account of profits on the coinage of silver dollars and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. to that of the U. S. mint at Philadelphia of the sum of $6,029.00 in gold coin and $39.86 in silver coin, making a total of $6,068.86, being the net value of bullion heretofore forwarded by the assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, as shown by memorandum No. 422, dated March 2, 1887, of gold bullion deposited at said mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 5, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

I am in receipt of a letter from the Treasurer of the United States requesting that the Superintendents of the Assay office at New York & of the mint at San Francisco be directed to receive from the Assistant Treasurers of the United States in those cities any "trade dollars" which may be received by the said Assistant Treasurers, and to take up the same in their bullion fund accounts at their face value, to be melted into ingots and held until further directions from

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the Secretary of the Treasury.

In order to secure proper accountability and a complete record of the transactions, it is desirable that these coins should be transferred to the mint at San Francisco and the assay office at New York on transfer orders authorized, from time to time, by the Secretary of the Treasury, and when received by the Superintendents of the institutions named to be accounted for by them the same as funds or moneys transferred, as provided by section 3545 of the Revised Statutes.

I have, therefore, to respectfully request that you will cause the bullion fund of the U. S. Assay Office at New York to be increased by a transfer of one million trade dollars, to be delivered by the Assistant Treasurer in that city to the Superintendent of the assay office from time to time, in sums of one hundred thousand dollars.

I have also to request that the bullion fund of the mint at San Francisco be increased by a transfer of five hundred thousand trade dollars to be delivered by the Assistant Treasurer in that city to the Superintendent of the mint.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

Your attention is directed to section

20, article 29, page 34 of the new regulations to take effect April 1st, which forbids the assaying of ores, matte and slags on the premises of the assay office.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter addressed to
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Your attention is respectfully directed to Section 3, article 5 of the new regulations to take effect April 1, 1887, which forbids the receipt of gold bullion for payment of its value in coin which contains less than 500 parts of gold.

In view of the increasing business of your institution and in view of the fact that depositors are no longer obliged to pay the cost of transportation to a coinage mint, and the consequent undesirability of receiving base deposits, it is thought that the practice in this respect should be uniform at all of the assay offices, and after the 1st of April you will decline to receive deposits of gold for payment in lawful money containing less than 500 parts of gold.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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March 7, 1887.

Messrs. E. J. Brooke & Co.
51 Dey Street,
New York,

Gentlemen:-

I have to thank you for the samples of lead seals which accompany your letter of the 5th instant, duly received. I will hold the matter under advisement with reference to the adaptability of these seals for the purpose intended.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

C. W. Peoryman, Esq.
50 Bedford Row,
London, W. C.

Sir:-

Acknowledging the receipt of your communication of the 18th ultimo addressed to the Public Printer and by him referred to this Bureau, I take pleasure in sending you to-day, copies of the reports of the Director of the Mint on the "Production of Gold and Silver in the United States" for the years 1884 and 1885.

The report for 1886 is not yet published; as soon as it is a copy will be mailed you.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
New Orleans,

Telegram.

How many ounces of trade dollars your Sub-treasury can you melt daily?

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

Similar telegrams sent to
Supt U. S. Mint,
San Francisco,

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

March 7, 1887.

Superintendent, Mint,
Philadelphia

Telegram.

Purpose is to run "trades" into maximum-sized bars, not coin at present.

Confirmed.

How many can you melt and in bars of what weight?

Have you molds sufficient? If not, order them.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary expense account, with abstracts and vouchers, for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball, Director.

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March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary expense accounts with abstracts & vouchers, for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your ordinary, refinery and standard silver doll. coinage and storage expense accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 4th instant enclosing statement of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during February 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully
Jas. P. Kimball, Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

I have requested that your bullion fund be increased by a transfer of one million trade dollars and that the same be delivered to you by the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at New York in sums of $100,000, from time to time.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York,

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant in regard to trade dollars to be transferred to you to be melted and converted into bars and asking how you shall account for the same, you are informed that these dollars will be transferred and taken up by you at their face value upon regular transfer orders. They will not, however, be entered upon your abstract sheets nor transferred to the Melter and Refiner, but will be melted and kept in your custody in a separate account, called trade dollar account.

I have requested that these coins be delivered to you from time to time by the Assistant Treasurer in sums of $100,000 or such amount as you can conveniently melt the same day as delivered.

These coins should be run into bars of a maximum weight of about 1200 oz. and stamped "T. D. 1887."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 7, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:-

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of March 1887, has been approved for the sum of $236.80, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries — 1887 — $236.80

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Letters, similar except as to amounts, addressed to

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

$481.40

Salaries — 1887 — $301.40
Wages of Workmen } 1887 — 180.
Contingent Expenses }

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

$34,000.

Salaries — 1887 — $4,000.
Wages of Workmen — 1887 — 25,000.
Contingent Expenses — 1887 — 5,000.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $1,000. to meet the expenses of the refinery in connection with your institution during the present month, payable from the appropriation for "parting and refining bullion".

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have to-day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $18,000. from the appropriation for the coinage of standard silver dollars, to meet, in part, the expenses of your mint in connection with that coinage, during the current month.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 7, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Under the Act of Congress which became a law March 3, trade dollars redeemed by the Treasurer or Assistant

Treasurers of the United States & sent to the coinage mints for conversion into bullion will be treated according to the following procedure.

The bullion will be run into bars of maximum weight (from 1,000 to 1,200 ounces) and stamped "T. D. 1887."

These dollars, as transferred to the mint, will be taken up by you at their face value upon regular "Transfer Orders." They will not, however, be entered upon your abstract sheet, nor transferred to the Melter & Refiner; but will be kept in your custody, in the form of bars, and accounted for separately in a "Trade-Dollar Account."

You are requested to notify this Bureau from time to time of the sums delivered to you by the Assistant Treasurer or Treasurers, by whom delivered, in sums of $100,000, or such amount, in round numbers, as you can conveniently melt the same day as delivered.

They should be stored apart from other silver bullion.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters sent to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco.

March 8, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Your corrected statement of earnings and expenditures for the quarter ended December 31, 1886, has been received at this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1887.

Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

As Congress has passed a law authorizing the redemption of the trade dollars issued by the United States which have not been mutilated, it is important to know what amount, if any, is imported into the United States during the next six months during which time the trade dollars are redeemable.

I will, therefore, thank you to issue instructions to the collectors of customs at the various ports of the United States, especially at the ports of New York and San Francisco, to exercise great care in classifying the entries of trade dollars, so that the government may be in possession of accurate information in regard to the number of trade dollars imported into the United States for redemption.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

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March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of March 1887, has been approved for the sum of $3,000:-, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries ——— 1887 ——— $1,000:-
Wages of Workmen — 1887 ——— 2,000:-

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 431, dated March 4, 1887, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, shipment No. 18, dated Feby 28, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value was found to be $90,001.46, charges $261.07 and net value $89,740.39. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

Boston & Colorado Smelting Co.
Denver, Col.

Gentlemen:-

In future, sellers of silver will be required to confine their deliveries on purchases made by the department, to the approximate amount of their contract.

Any amount delivered in excess of 750 ounces over the amount contracted for, will be paid for on the day of final delivery by the Superintendent of the mint, only at the rate authorized to be paid for small lots.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters addressed to

Messrs. Clark, Dodge & Co.
51 Wall St.
New York.

Messrs. James B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York.

O. D. Baldwin,
Presdt Fourth Natl Bank,
New York.

Messrs. Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

Messrs. J. & W. Seligman & Co.
New York.

Messrs. Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall Street,
New York.

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March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 5th instant enclosing statement of silver purchased at your mint during the month of February, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director, Mint.

March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Purchases of silver bullion have been made this day, at the department, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for delivery at your mint, of the following parties, at the rates and for the amounts respectively named, which you will receive and pay for, by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York:

Clark, Dodge & Co. — 75,000 ounces at $1.0085.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Letter, similar except as to parties and amounts to
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Fourth National Bank — 40,000 ounces at $1.0085
Handy & Harman — 80,000 ounces at 1.0085

March 8, 1887.

Clark, Dodge & Co.
#51 Wall Street,
New York,

Telegram.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and eighty-five hundredths cents per ounce fine for New Orleans.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

James B. Colgate & Co.
#47 Wall St.
New York,

Telegram.

Your offer declined. Will accept same at one hundred and eighty-five hundredths cents per ounce fine.

Confirmed.

Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar telegrams sent to
Fourth National Bank,
New York.

Handy & Harman,
#24 Nassau St.
New York.

Zimmermann & Forshay,
#19 Wall St.
New York.

March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

The official bonds of A. S. Cochran, Weigh Clerk and George Esherick, warrant clerk, of your mint, have been approved by the

Acting Secretary of the Treasury and were this day filed in the office of the First Comptroller.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, a bill of the "Oakland Times" for publishing proposals for supplies in the months of May and June 1886, amounting to $10.80 and payable from your appropriation for contingent expenses, 1886.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the bullion fund of the U. S. mint at Denver, Col. to that of the U. S. mint at Philadelphia, Pa. of the sum of $89,315.00 in gold coin and $425.39 in silver coin, making a total of $89,740.39, being the net value of bullion forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the U. S. mint at Denver, as shown by memorandum No. 431, dated March 4, 1887, of gold bullion deposited at said mint.

(For signature, see next page.)

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 8, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 1st instant enclosing statements of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during the month of February 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Your letters of the 5th instant enclosing statements of deposits and purchases and domestic production of gold and silver during month of February 1887, have been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

S. B. Kent, Esq.
East Saginaw,
Mich.

Sir:-

In reply to your inquiry of the 5th

March, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, I am unable to say more than that, according to the author of a work on "The Current Gold and Silver Coins of All Nations", "half-cents of 1806" have been sold at coin sales for from six cents to forty cents each.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

E. E. Olcott, Esq.
#10 Cedar St.
New York,

Sir:-

I send you by mail to-day a copy of my report on the "Production of the Precious metals in the United States" during the calendar year 1885, and also a copy of my fiscal report for 1886. On page 247 of the latter is a dispatch received through the Department of State from the government of Peru in regard to monetary matters, and on pages 168 and 169, a statement of the production of gold and silver in the world by countries.

I am anxious to obtain more complete information in regard to the production of gold and silver in South American countries, especially Peru, Bolivia and Columbia, for the purpose of making my report on this subject as correct as possible.

It would be a public service, and I would esteem it a personal

favor if you could place in my possession any information in regard to the production of gold and silver from the mines of Peru during the past calendar year, or any recent year, or inform me where I would be likely to obtain any complete statistics on the subject.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

Herewith are returned for correction, Forms 125, Mint at New Orleans, for months of January and February, 1887.

Form 125 is to be used as a transcript of a record, kept at each coinage mint, "of coins reserved for annual assay," — not special assay. For "special assay" coins forwarded from time to time a letter of transmittal, as heretofore, is all that is necessary.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia,

Sir:-

The returned designs for Annual Assay coin seals will be satisfactory; and, as they are to be used for seal-

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ing wax alone, it is not necessary that they be cut in steel, unless there is some decided advantage.

I have marked one for Carson, which will be required only in case coinage be resumed at that institution.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

With reference to yours of the 28th February, in regard to a carpet, I have to say that an expenditure not to exceed one hundred and twenty-five dollars ($125.-) for carpet for adjusters' cloak room will be approved; understanding that the room is more of a waiting room than a cloak room, for which the application was first made.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the sum of $150,000.- to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name on account of profits on coinage of

silver dollars and to increase your bullion fund by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Hon. Daniel Manning,
Secretary of the Treasury,

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000.) on account of profits on the coinage of silver dollars, and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco,

Sir:-

In answer to yours of the 1st of March with regard to old deficiencies charged against your mint, I have to say that these are mainly a matter of book-keeping, and largely, if not wholly, that of the Treasury department. It is believed that, in fact, no statement of this account could be made elsewhere than in the Treasury

Department, and that could be done by this Bureau at any time that it were found necessary.

I cannot understand the object of opening the matter, except to obtain the action of Congress for its extinction. But it shall be borne in mind, and whenever time may suit, the matter will be taken in hand with that object in view. Meanwhile I cannot approve such a measure as the employment of a special book-keeping expert at your mint for any purpose, no provision being made by the government for such expenditures, and it being assumed that the stated book-keeper is equal to any investigation such as you refer to.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1887.

R. P. Rothwell, Esq.
Editor, Engineering & Mining Journal,
27 Park Place,
New York,

Sir:-

Please accept my thanks for your kindness in informing me of the address of Mr. E. E. Olcott.

I am informed by Mr. Holbrook that a pamphlet has been circulating in New York, published by the United States Consul General at Columbia, in regard to the mines of that country. Have you seen such a publication and can you inform

me where I can obtain a copy of it? If it is a report of Consul Dalton to which he refers it has already been published in one of the reports of this Bureau and in the consular reports of the State Department, but as he did not recall the name of the writer I thought you would probably know, if any one did, something about it.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith please find official copy of the bill making appropriations for the legislative, executive & judicial expenses of the government during the fiscal year 1888. Your attention is especially invited to the appropriations made for the support of your institution, within which you will carefully confine your expenditures, & no obligations beyond the amounts appropriated, will be incurred.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letters addressed to
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte
N. C.

(See next page)

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See page 494.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 10, 1887.

First Auditor,
Treasury Department,

Sir:-

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the ordinary expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver, for the month ended January 31, 1887, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mon.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your

ordinary expense accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Col.

Sir:-

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the department for examination and settlement, your ordinary expense accounts for the month ended January 31, 1887, with my approval.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

It will only be necessary for you hereafter to telegraph on Monday and Thursday of each week the balance of silver bullion on hand and the cost of your local purchases during the month.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

March 10, 1887.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt

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of your ordinary and standard silver dollar expense accounts with abstracts and vouchers for the month ended February 28, 1887.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 4th instant, the name of John Alston, deceased, late a workman in the Coiner's department of your mint, will be dropped from the official register of this Bureau from the 16th ultimo.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Also in appointment book.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $5000 from the appropriation for the coinage of standard silver dollars, to meet, in part, the expenses of that coinage at your mint during the current month.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find authority of the Secretary of the Treasury for you to advertise in the "Times" and "Record" inviting proposals for the sale of old pumping engine and pipe as requested in your letter of the 9th instant.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1887.

Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

As the trade dollars redeemed by the Assistant Treasurer in your city are to be transferred to you to be converted into bars I have, in order to secure a record of the same requested the Secretary of the Treasury to increase your bullion fund by a transfer of one million trade dollars to be delivered to you by the Assistant Treasurer from time to time in sums of one hundred thousand dollars or in such amounts as you can melt the same day as received.

As these coins are transferred you will take them up at their face value. They will not be entered upon your abstract sheets nor transferred to the Melter and Refiner but will be melted

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and kept in your custody in a separate account called "Trade Dollar Account."

These coins should be run into bars of a maximum weight of about 1200 ounces and stamped "T.D. 1887."

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 3rd instant enclosing statement of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during month of February, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

Duplicate, on page 500.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Deposit Memorandum No. 448, dated March 7, 1887, of gold bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, shipment No. 13, dated February 28, 1887, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value was found to be $9,864.28, charges $29.97 and net value $9,834.31. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the U. S.

Mint at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Ida.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 3rd instant, enclosing statement of deposits and purchases, domestic production and bars manufactured of gold and silver during month of February, 1887, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1887.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho,

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the month of March 1887, has been approved for the sum of $610.-, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries ——— 1887 ——— $260.-
Wages of Workmen, Contingent Expenses 1887 ——— 350.-

Very respectfully,
Jas. P. Kimball,
Director.

Similar letter, except as to amounts to

Supt. U. S. Mint, New Orleans, La.

$10,200.-

Salaries ——— 1887 ——— $2700.-
Wages of Workmen ——— 1887 ——— 5,000.-
Contingent Expenses ——— 1887 ——— 2,500.-

For remainder of letter of March 10 see Book #46.